

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XX, Issue No. 116

MONDAY MAY 17, 2010

www.saipantribune.com 50¢



POLL RESULTS

Have you ever reported any pricing discrepancies to the Attorney General's consumer counsel?

Yes	7
No	66

Sunday, May 16, 2010

INSIDE



New Attempt

BP is confident its latest experiment would capture the oil flowing into the Gulf of Mexico.

NATION...Page 16



Questioned Appointee

Noyon Aquino refuses to take his oath of office before the new chief justice.

ASIA...Page 17



Record Breaker

Jessica Watson becomes the youngest person to sail around the globe solo.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 18

Workers to Congress: Act now

» Thousands of aliens, supporters in motorcade, assembly

If you believe in something you have to stand for it. If it doesn't work, at least you tried.

—Noel Reyes

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Despite the scorching heat, hundreds of vehicles and thousands of nonresident workers, their families, and supporters joined yesterday's motorcade and peaceful assembly to show strong support to the U.S. Department of the Interior's recommendation for improved immigration status for legal alien workers who have been residing in the CNMI for at least five years.

See WORKERS on Page 4



Thousands of nonresident workers, their families and supporters crowd the American Memorial Park in Garapan after a motorcade that started in Susupe yesterday afternoon, to show support to the U.S. Department of the Interior's recommendation to grant long-term immigration status to nonresident workers in the CNMI, and to call on the U.S. Congress to immediately act on such recommendation. Inset shows a nonresident worker tying a yellow ribbon to a banner on top of his car.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Fitial to tell Congress: We do not support Interior recommendation

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial left for Washington, D.C. yesterday to personally deliver what his administration termed as a "unified" position: That the CNMI government does not support the U.S. Department of the Interior's report and recommendation on improved status for long-term alien workers.

See FITIAL on Page 4

2010 MMAC raises \$75K

» Team Bodig wins four special awards

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Cancer Association raised a total of \$75,463 inclusive of in-kind donations during the 2010 Marianas March Against Cancer held from Friday night to Saturday morning.

Team Bodig won the most money.

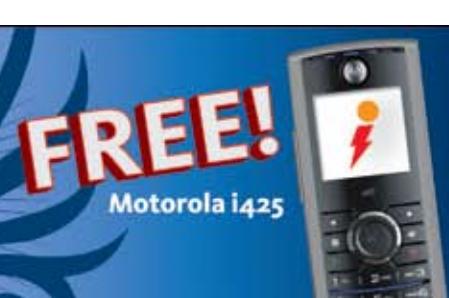
See MMAC on Page 4



A boy looks at the luminaries on the grounds of Hopwood Junior High School in Chalan Piao during Friday night's 2010 Marianas March Against Cancer, the largest annual fundraising activity in the CNMI for cancer programs.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

128 pct. single hike for wastewater pushed. **PAGE 3**
Koblerville Elementary tops Academic Challenge Bowl. **PAGE 6**



1000
MINUTES

600 ANYTIME MINUTES
400 PTT MINUTES
UNLIMITED LOCAL TEXT
GRAB ONE NOW!

*Some conditions apply. 24 month contract required. Price is exclusive of GRT, USF, E911 and 411 charges.

iCONNECT
www.iconnectsaipan.com

Local



USCIS to issue redesigned green card

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services announced on May 12, 2010, that it has redesigned the Permanent Resident Card—commonly known as the “green card”—to incorporate several major new security features. Beginning today, USCIS will issue all green cards in the new, more secure format.

Q. What is a Permanent Resident Card, or “Green Card”?

A. A green card is proof of authorization to live and work in the United States on a permanent basis. It also is evidence of registration in accordance with U.S. immigration laws. Newly issued green cards are valid for ten years for lawful permanent resi-

dents and two years for conditional residents. The permanent resident must renew his or her card each time it expires.

Q. Why did USCIS redesign the Green Card?

A. The green card redesign is the latest advance in USCIS’ ongoing efforts to deter immigration fraud. State-of-the-art technology prevents counterfeiting, obstructs tampering, and facilitates quick and accurate authentication of the card. The enhanced features will better serve law enforcement, employers, and immigrants, all of whom look to the green card as definitive proof of authorization to live and work in the United States.

Q. What major improvements has USCIS included in the redesigned green card?

A. Secure optical media store biometrics for rapid and reliable identification of the card holder. Holographic images, laser engraved fingerprints, and high resolution micro-images make the card nearly impossible to reproduce. Tighter integration of the card design with personalized elements makes it difficult to alter the card if stolen. Radio Frequency Identification capability allows Customs and Border Protection officers at ports of entry to read the card from a distance and compare it immediately to file data. Finally, a preprinted

return address enables the quick and easy return of a lost card to USCIS.

Q. Is the Permanent Resident Card actually green, as its nickname suggests?

A. After the redesign, the card is now colored green.

Q. Who will receive the redesigned green card?

A. Beginning May 11, 2010, USCIS will issue all green cards in the new, more secure format. Recipients of the redesigned card will include those newly approved for lawful permanent residency, as well as those who have sought a renewal or replacement card.

Q. What happens to existing green cards with the old design?

A. Some existing green cards bear an expiration date, and those cards will remain valid until they expire.

Holders of those cards will receive the redesigned version when seeking a renewal or replacement.

Other existing green cards have no expiration date, and those cards remain valid. USCIS recommends that holders of cards without an expiration date apply to replace their cards with the redesigned version.

The current cost of renewing or replacing a green card is \$370. Additionally, eligible permanent residents may choose to explore becoming a naturalized U.S. citizen. For more information on eligibility for naturalization, go to www.uscis.gov/citizenship.

Source: USCIS

Q. How does a lawful permanent resident replace a green card, if lost or damaged?

A. A lawful permanent resident may seek a replacement card by filing a Form I-90, Application to Replace Permanent Resident Card. The Form I-90 and instructions are available online at <http://www.uscis.gov/forms>. If outside the United States, a lawful permanent resident should contact the nearest U.S. consulate, USCIS office, or U.S. port of entry before attempting to file a Form I-90.

Source: USCIS

‘Vexatious litigant’ stopped from further filings in suit vs two judges

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit has ruled that no filings will be entertained anymore in connection with “vexatious litigant” John Sablan Pangelinan’s \$61.1 million lawsuit against two judges and several other persons.

The Ninth Circuit judges said no further filings shall be accepted in this closed case.

Pangelinan filed a petition for panel rehearing but the Ninth Circuit denied it.

The appellate court has issued an order that the court’s judgment entered March 10, 2010, “takes effect this date.”

In the March 10 order, the Ninth Circuit affirmed the U.S. District Court for the NMI’s ruling dismissing Pangelinan’s lawsuit.

The Ninth Circuit said U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood properly concluded that the judges were immune to the extent that they were sued for claims arising from their decisions in Pangelinan’s lawsuits.

The appellate court ruled that Tydingco-Gatewood properly

concluded that the prosecutor was entitled to absolute immunity.

Pangelinan filed the \$61.1 million lawsuit in January 2008 against then U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Alex R. Munson and district court designated judge David Wiseman.

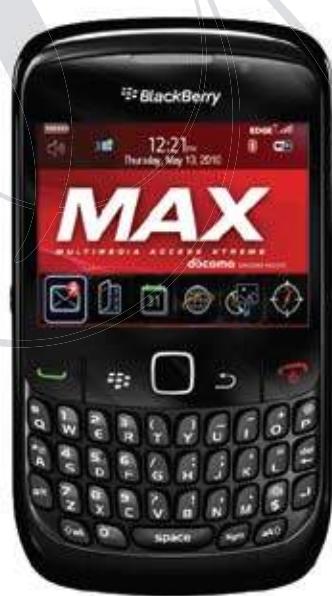
Pangelinan also named as co-defendants two lawyers, a federal prosecutor, an FBI agent, two federal probation officers, two U.S. Marshals, and seven other people.

In the lawsuit he filed pro se (without a lawyer), Pangelinan also sued 13 grand jurors and 12 jurors.

In her order issued in June 2008, Tydingco-Gatewood dismissed the lawsuit and declared Pangelinan a “vexatious litigant.” She prohibited Pangelinan from filing any lawsuit or documents in federal court that is related to a 1997 lawsuit filed against him.

The judge noted that the Commonwealth’s most active pro se litigant filed 18 appeals related to a 1997 court judgment that found him liable to pay \$270,000. (Ferdie de la Torre)

Graduate in Style!



BLACKBERRY 8520
\$199*
Postpaid



Includes
A FREE
BLUETOOTH
HEADSET



Sony Ericsson W395

\$99*

(Regular Price: \$207.00)

- 2 Megapixel Camera
- Video Recording
- 10 MB Internal Memory
- Walkman player
- Micro SD Card Slot



Nokia 3720 Classic

\$99*

(Regular Price: \$409.00)

- 2 Megapixel Camera
- Video Recording
- Dust and Water jets resistant
- MP3 player
- Micro SD Card Slot

Motorola U9

\$99*

(Regular Price: \$207.00)

- 2 Megapixel Camera
- Video Recording
- Bluetooth
- MP3/player
- Micro SD Card Slot



Nokia 3600

\$99*

(Regular Price: \$237.00)

- 3.15 Megapixel Camera
- Video Recording
- 42 MB Internal Memory
- MP3/AAC/eAAC+ player
- Micro SD Card Slot

Opening Special

May Promo
Monday, Wednesday & Thursday

HAPPY HOUR:
8pm-10pm

\$1.00
Asahi Beer / Aqua Blue

GARAPAN
Fiesta Resort & Spa
Hyatt Regency
Remington Club
Hafa Adai Beach Hotel
DFS
HERE!!
BEACH ROAD

Closed on Sun & Tues for the month of May only

GIG
SAIPAN'S PREMIER DISCOTHEQUE CLUB
8:00pm to 2:00am

*New Activations Only with 12-month agreement required. All new handset activations will receive a FREE Bluetooth headset (while supplies last).

Valid during May 17th – June 12th or while supplies last. Other conditions to apply.

docomo
NTT
DOCOMO PACIFIC

483-CARE | www.docomopacific.com | Typhoon-Proven
Gualo Rai, Middle Road • Mita Travel, Garapan

Consultant recommends 128 pct. single hike for wastewater

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The consultant for the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission disagreed with a proposal to implement an increase to the water rate next month, but recommended a single across-the-board rate hike for wastewater.

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. petitioned the commission to approve a 95-percent rate increase for all wastewater rates effective June 1 this year and a second rate adjustment of 35 percent four months later.

Georgetown Consulting Group Inc., however, is recommending a better solution.

"We believe that the overall dollars raised by this request is reasonable under the circumstances. However, we recommend that both CUC and the CPUC consider implementing a single rate increase of two rate increases within four months," the consultant told the commission on its May 5 report.

The original CUC proposal will reflect 164 percent increase in October for all its waste water customers.

For instance, a customer charge of \$8.20 per month at present will increase charge to \$15.99 in June and eventually will become \$21.59 per month in October 2010.

Moreover, under CUC's proposal, a residential or commercial customer paying minimum charge monthly of \$8.20, the rate would become \$18.72 in June and will stay the same in

October.

Georgetown Consulting's recommendation, meanwhile, will mean a 128.3-percent rate increase beginning June 1 compared to CUC's proposal of 164 percent in two rate increases.

"While this increase is initially higher than the CUC proposed increase of 95 percent on June 1, the increase that would have been implemented in Oct. 1 would represent higher rates," the consultant stated.

Georgetown Consulting said that given that its proposed rates will be lower than the CUC proposal rates on that dates, it said the revenues collected in FY 2011 under its proposal will be less than the revenues that would be collected under the CUC proposal.

"The total revenue increase over the 16-month period is revenue neutral and is a matter of judgment under our proposal," it explained.

Saipan Tribune learned that under the CUC proposal of two rate increases, projected revenue for CUC is \$2.9 million, while under the consultant's proposal of a single rate hike of 128 percent will bring revenue of only \$2.4 million—or a difference of \$474,000.

Georgetown Consulting, however, indicated that the single rate increase will produce more revenues in FY 2010.

In the same report to the commission, Georgetown Consulting said there is no need for CUC to implement an across-the-board water rate adjustment

to all its customers because its financial problem could be addressed by equalizing the prices for metered and unmetered customers for both the residential and commercial users.

**元通金行
YTT G GOLD キン**
**We buy gold
and we do
pawn service.**

**Good Reputation
Since 1989**

**Tel. No.: 233-2368
Business Hours: 1pm - 9pm
Located behind Duty Free
and Star Sands Plaza**

Diabetic?

Visit the Center for Advanced Diabetic Eye Care

Why?

- Advanced Technologies
 - State of the art diagnostic equipment
 - Advanced lasers and surgeries
- Top Doctors
 - Mark Robertson, OD
Magna Cum Laude
 - David Khorram, MD
America's Top Ophthalmologists
Researcher in Diabetic Eye Care
- Newest Vision Saving Treatments



Most Insurance Accepted
Walk-ins welcome

235-9090

Beach Road, Garapan
www.MarianasEye.com

MHS open house on Wednesday

Marianas High School hosting its fourth open house on Wednesday, May 19, from 4pm to 6pm.

All parents and legal guardians of students from MHS are invited to attend.

"We invite all parents/legal guardians to visit your student's classrooms, meet the teach-

ers, and pick up your student's progress reports," said MHS in a statement.

Students will be released at 1pm on this day to allow the school time to prepare for the event. During the open house, progress reports will be distributed for fourth quarter grades. (PR)

HOPE
STRENGTH
JOY





"When I grow up,
I want to become
a police officer!"

"I want to meet
Winnie the Pooh!"

"My wish is to
go shopping!"

90 wishes granted over 15 years of serving
Guam, Rota, Tinian and Saipan

MAKE-A-WISH®

Visit us at
865 S. Marine Dr., Orlean Pacific Plaza Ste. 104
Tamuning, Guam 96913
Tel: (671) 649-WISH • Fax: (671) 646-6293
Email: mawfguam@ite.net • www.wish.org
Office Hours: 8:30am to 5:30pm, M-F daily

Saipan Tribune

INTRODUCING

HYUNDAI

THE 2010 ALL-NEW & TOTALLY REDESIGNED
TUCSON



**31
MPG**



STARTING AT
\$185
per paycheck*

Charismatic, trendy, sensual, gorgeous.

- Theta II 2.4 liter DOHC inline, 4-cylinder Engine with 176 horsepower.
- 6-speed automatic Transmission with SHIFTRONIC.
- EPA fuel economy rating of up to 31mpg.
- Certified "Partial Zero Emission Vehicle", same as a hybrid.
- Six Airbags: dual front and side w/ both-row side curtains.
- NHTSA's top 5-star crash test rating for front & side impacts.
- Four-wheel disc brakes and advanced ABS w/ Brake Assist & EBD.
- Steel body with integrated crumple zones and high-tensile sub-frame.
- Electronic Stability Control (ESC) with traction control.
- Rack-and-pinion Motor-Driven Power Steering (MDPS)
- MacPherson strut front & multi-link rear suspension system.
- Power Windows & central Door locks with foldaway side Mirrors.
- Remote keyless entry system with alarm and panic button.
- 160-watt AM/FM/CD/MP3 audio system w/ 6 speakers & iPod aux. input.
- 19 different storage places and drink holders.
- Best-in-class turning diameter.
- Tire Pressure Monitor System (TPMS)
- Roof rails, front fog lamps and rear luggage screen.



TRIPLE J MOTORS

Mon-Fri: 8am-6pm • Sat: 8am-5pm
Beach Road, Chalan Lau Lau **234-7133**

www.carssaipan.com

*On approved credit (OAC). Some conditions apply. Doc fees and registration not included. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Vehicles may not be exactly as shown. See dealer for more details. Total price is \$22,995 less 20% down payment. Financed at 11.25% APR for 60 monthly payments of \$402.27 or \$185 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred price is \$24,136.20.



YOUR NADA CERTIFIED SALES TEAM, ASK FOR US BY NAME!



NMC Summer 2010 registration begins this week

Registration for the Northern Marianas College's Summer 2010 semester will begin this week on Wednesday, May 19, 2010, and will continue to Friday, May 21, 2010.

New students are required to take an English and Math placement test before they register. The schedule of placement tests and the Summer 2010 class schedule can be found online at www.nmcnet.edu.

The Summer 2010 semester is divided into four sessions: Regu-

lar Summer Session (nine-week courses), Extended Summer Session (twelve-week courses), Summer Session I (six-week courses) and Summer Session II (six-week courses starting July 6).

Those who have not applied for admission can still do so by visiting the College's Office of Admissions and Records and picking up an application form. Application forms can also be downloaded from the NMC Web site.

Application for admissions will be

accepted until the last day of registration provided that both placement tests have been taken. Note the following dates below:

Summer 2010 Important Dates

■ **May 19-21:** Registration for Summer 2010 Semester, 9am to 6pm.

■ **May 19-June 2:** Registration for Summer Session II, 9am to 6pm.

■ **May 26:** First Day of Instruction

■ **May 31:** CNMI Legal Holiday

(Memorial Day)

■ **July 6:** First Day of Instruction for Summer Session II

For more information regarding ad-

He has been on Saipan for 14 years.

Sulyman, 34, from Bangladesh, hopes that Congress will grant "better status" to foreign workers like him who have been in the CNMI for at least five years. Sulyman came to the CNMI 13 years ago to work as a garment ironer, before becoming a construction worker and then a farmer.

Nonresident parents also brought their U.S. citizen children to the motorcade and assembly.

"I'm here to support my parents," said Joanne Orosco, a 10-year-old U.S. citizen who is among the thousands of children who fear having to choose between staying on Saipan where they were born or go with their nonresident worker parents who may be forced to leave the islands once they lose status to remain in the CNMI after 2014 or earlier.

Her mother, Nenita Orosco, 45, has been a contract worker on Saipan for 17 years, first as a garment sewer then as a food catering employee earning a minimum wage of \$4.55 an hour.

"This is it. We are thankful for the high turnout," said Rene Reyes, president of the Marianas Advocates for Humanitarian Affairs Ltd. or MAHAL and one of the organizers of the motorcade and assembly.

At the assembly, speakers like lawyers Jane Mack and Steve Woodruff, Dr. Gene Sylvester Eagle-Oden, and Francisco Dela Cruz, a local senior citizen, delivered inspiring remarks.

"What you're asking for [improved status] is a right," said Eagle-Oden.

Glen Hunter read a statement by former lawmaker and staunch supporter of worker rights Tina Sablan, while event organizers distributed copies of statements from Bandila and U.S.-based Filipino-American community leader and lawyer Rodel Rodis.

Both Bandila, through its spokesperson Nilo S. Tayag, and Rodis, support the CNMI nonresident workers' quest for green card or U.S. citizenship.

'Closer than ever'

Sablan, in her prepared message, said "We are closer than ever to our goal," referring to the collective efforts to realize immigration reform and improved status for the CNMI's alien workers.

"Our task now, as I see it, is two-fold. First, we must appeal to Congress to act quickly and favorably on the Interior secretary's recommendations by passing legislation to grant long-term status, including a pathway to citizenship, to the CNMI's legal alien workers. ... Second, we must reach out to everyone here at home—those who understand and support our efforts, and those who may be fearful or insecure," Sablan's message partly reads.

Woodruff, in his remarks, said for 30 years, the CNMI has operated under a system that divided foreign workers from local workers—to the detriment of all workers.

"It is a system that devalued our

missions or registration, contact OAR at 234-5498 Ext 1537 or email oar@nmcnet.edu, or log on to www.nmcnet.edu. (NMC)

strongly opposes the Interior report recommending granting permanent immigration status to long-term foreign workers in the CNMI.

It also asks Congress to "direct" the Interior to "consult" with Fitial as mandated by PL 110-229.

Demapan said Fitial will also reiterate the CNMI government's request to the federal government to include China and Russia in the visa waiver program.

In October 2009, Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano used her "parole" powers to grant the CNMI's request to be allowed to continue receiving Chinese and Russian visitors at least until DHS issues a final rule on the joint Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program.

Under this parole program, Russian and Chinese tourists will still be allowed to enter the CNMI without a U.S. visa for up to 45 days.

Bordallo's subcommittee also invited the Department of Homeland Security, Interior, and the Government Accountability Office to testify at the hearing.

GAO, the investigative arm of the U.S. Congress, recently issued its report, "Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands: DHS Should Conclude Negotiations and Finalize Regulations to Implement Federal Immigration Law."

The 88-page report discusses its audit of federal efforts to complete the transition to federal immigration control in the CNMI and highlights the unfinished business, including issuance of final regulations for the CNMI-only investor rule and the CNMI transitional worker rules.

have lost the fight aren't here to share it with us. I myself just lost my grandmother, Juanita Fleming, in March of this year," she shared.

Nogis lauded the hard work of her committee members for months of stressful planning to ensure the event will be a success.

She said MMAC is very thankful to all the sponsors and teams for their hard work and support.

"MMAC would not survive if not for our wonderful teams, sponsors, and the entire community. Also, MMAC is beyond thankful for the hardworking men and women from the Saipan Mayor's Office."

Like in previous years, several cancer survivors in the CNMI were presented with medallions and shared inspiring messages with spectators.

Various entertainment numbers were also featured, including mini carnivals and games for the children and music and dance performances of different groups.

Team Bodig captain Jocelyn Deleon Guerrero, in an interview with *Saipan Tribune*, said this year marked the group's 11th year of supporting the worthy cause.

The family first joined in 1999 when the event was still called "Relay for Life" under the American Cancer Society. The Marianas March Against Cancer was formed in 2004.

Deleon Guerrero, whose mother and sister were victims of cancer, said the effort initially started with family members and kept growing every year.

Besides selling luminaries for the event and serving dinner during the occasion, Team Bodig also spearheaded other fundraisers such as coin drives and lunch sales prior to the event. Last year, Deleon Guerrero's team raised \$11,000 for the same cause and vowed to continue the family's support in coming years.

WORKERS

From Page 1

Most of the banners and streamers at the motorcade and assembly carried the word "Yes" or the phrase "Yes to Interior recommendations." Chants of "yes to improved status" also filled the air.

Nonresident workers hope that Congress will hear their resounding support for Interior's recommendations—conferring outright U.S. citizenship on aliens, granting them permanent residency status leading to U.S. citizenship, or granting them a status similar to that of Freely Associated States citizens—and immediately act on these recommendations.

"I am optimistic that the U.S. Congress will look into this issue seriously and quickly. We hope they will take a fast action on the Interior recommendations," Rabby Syed, president of the United Workers Movement-NMI and one of the event organizers, told *Saipan Tribune*.

Spectacle

The motorcade started at 2:28pm at the Kilili Beach Park in Susupe, and the last vehicle didn't reach American Memorial Park in Garapan for the assembly until around 4pm.

Event organizers and participants put the crowd estimate between 2,000 and 5,000, while vehicle estimate was at 300 to 700, exceeding the expectations of the organizers.

The spectacle started long before the first vehicle left the Kilili Beach Park, as workers, their children and supporters in a festive mood greeted one another. Most of them wore white shirts, while some also wore yellow arm bands and head bands with the word "yes."

Some of the vehicles carried banners and streamers, as well as yellow, white or blue balloons.

Motorists who didn't make it to the motorcade honked their horns to show solidarity.

Yesterday's event was reminiscent of the 2007 unity march, whose core organizers like the United Workers Movement-NMI, Dekada, and the Marianas Advocates for Humanitarian Affairs Ltd. or MAHAL, once again showed their unity in an effort to ask the federal government to grant improved status for long-term alien workers in the CNMI.

Better status

Zenny Cuerdo, who has been a contract worker on Saipan for 18 years, said she joined the unity march in 2007.

"Now that the Interior has already come up with recommendations, workers are showing their support to these recommendations. And that's why we're here," Cuerdo said shortly before the start of the motorcade.

Yang Jun, publisher of the Chinese newspaper *Pacific Weekly*, said it's time that workers show support to the Interior report and recommendation.

accepted until the last day of registration provided that both placement tests

have been taken. Note the following

dates below:

missions or registration, contact OAR at 234-5498 Ext 1537 or email oar@nmcnet.edu, or log on to www.nmcnet.edu. (NMC)

FITAL

From Page 1

Fitial's trip came on the same day thousands of nonresident workers, their relatives, and supporters held a motorcade and assembly to show support to the Interior report and to call on the U.S. Congress to act on the Interior recommendation. (See main story)

The Fitial administration, as well as the CNMI House of Representatives and Senate, said they oppose the Interior report because the agency did not consult the CNMI government prior to submitting the report and recommendation to Congress.

Fitial will be one of those testifying at a May 18 congressional oversight hearing on the implementation of Public Law 110-229 or the federalization law.

The CNMI immigration came under federal control on Nov. 28, 2009 as a result of PL 110-229.

The U.S. House Subcommittee on Insular Areas, Oceans, and Wildlife, chaired by Guam Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo, will conduct the oversight hearing.

The Fitial administration said that, while the hearing will be focused on the tourist visa waiver program, they expect the Interior report to be a topic of discussion as well.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said the joint resolution adopted by the House and Senate will be incorporated in Fitial's testimony to the subcommittee.

House Joint Resolution 17-4, HS1

MMAC

From Page 1

ey raised by a family after it netted \$13,516.70. It also bagged this year's most spirited, best tent, and the most luminaries sold with over \$1,100.

Team Pacific Islands Club was hailed winner of the most money raised award in the corporate category, with a total of \$12,186. Grace Christian Academy, meanwhile, topped the school category with \$2,602.

The Transportation Security Administration won in the government category with a total of \$7,717.37 raised.

According to Janine F. Nogis, MMAC overall chairperson, they collected a total of \$60,963 from all 15 teams that participated in the event and recorded a total collection of \$75,463.16, including in-kind donations.

This year's take is a bit lower than last year's haul, which amounted to over \$77,000 but is still higher than the 2008 total of \$71,000.

Named as this year's best baton was Team IT&E/Saipan Southern High School, while the most laps award went to Team Marianas Variety/Marianas High School.

"The 2010 MMAC event was without a doubt an emotional roller coaster. It's a once-a-year, 12-hour event where the community can remember our loved ones who have passed and honor those who have survived and are still fighting. It's a beautiful thing! I thank all the survivors who came out and allowed us to share their special moment with them," Nogis told *Saipan Tribune*, adding that they are also very appreciative of the community and cancer victims' families who came out.

Besides selling luminaries for the event and serving dinner during the occasion, Team Bodig also spearheaded other fundraisers such as coin drives and lunch sales prior to the event. Last year, Deleon Guerrero's team raised \$11,000 for the same cause and vowed to continue the family's support in coming years.

US govt agrees to postpone Joyner's sentencing

The U.S. government has agreed to postpone the sentencing of convicted methamphetamine or "ice" distributor Jawn Joyner.

Assistant U.S. attorney James J. Benedetto reached an agreement with Joyner's

counsel, Bruce Berline, to set the sentencing for Friday, May 21, at 8am.

The sentencing date was May 7, but Berline requested for more time to review the amended pre-sentence report and prepare for

the hearing.

Benedetto stipulated with Berline to have the new sentencing date.

Last January, the federal court allowed Joyner to speak to students while awaiting sentencing

about not going into a life of crime.

Joyner signed a plea agreement with the U.S. government. He pleaded guilty to three counts of possession of a controlled substance with intent to

distribute.

According to the charging information, the defendant was found in possession with intent to distribute 0.34 actual grams of "ice" on Sept. 12, 2008; 0.19 actual grams of "ice" on Oct. 8, 2008; and 0.36 actual grams of "ice" on March 17, 2009.

Under the plea agreement, the

stipulated sentencing guidelines range is 12 to 18 months imprisonment.

The U.S. government will recommend 12 months in prison.

The agreement also indicated that the applicable fine range is \$3,000 to \$30,000. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

Judge stands pat on statements about violation of Robinson's rights

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Mark W. Bennett is standing by his statements at the hearing in the case against Kent Sebastian Robinson, a defendant facing charges that he produced a forged \$200 million treasury bond, that the U.S. government violated Robinson's rights by denying him a detention hearing.

Bennett, however, emphasized that while the wheels of justice came to a screeching halt here for Robinson, he finds it was "due to a cataclysmic and shocking concurrence of gross inadvertence, negligence, and ignorance of the law, but not intentional misconduct."

"The prosecution, which is under a duty to do justice and to ensure the integrity of the criminal justice system, had an obligation to ensure that Robinson's statutory and constitutional rights were not trampled in the course of proceedings leading to his detention. The prosecution failed to meet that obligation here," said the visiting federal judge from Iowa in his 47-page order.

At the hearing last April 21, Bennett ordered the release of Robinson on terms and conditions after he found that the U.S. government failed to move for a detention hearing since the defendant's arrest.

The U.S. government then requested the court to allow it to supplement the record concerning the prosecution's efforts to comply with the requirements of the law for the detention of Robinson.

The prosecution asked the judge to consider the supplemental information as it is pertinent to the correctness of his criticism of the prosecu-

tion's conduct in Robinson's detention.

In his order granting the prosecution's request to supplement the record, Bennett said the interests of justice and fairness require that the prosecution be allowed to supplement the record with the information.

Bennett, however, noted that nothing in the supplemental information provided requires him to correct any findings or statements regarding the prosecution's conduct.

"In light of the supplemental information I am, if anything, more shocked at the prosecution's disregard of Robinson's statutory and constitutional rights in the proceedings leading to his improper pretrial de-

tention," he said.

The judge said it is unconscionable that any criminal defendant in a federal prosecution in the United States be held in pretrial detention for some 30 days without a proper detention hearing and proper detention order.

Nevertheless, Bennett said, having found that injustice in the case, he wants to make clear that he does not have any bad faith or intentional misconduct by the U.S. Attorney's Office.

"To a person, I found each Assistant U.S. Attorney I dealt with in the District of the Northern Mariana Islands to be of exceptional good faith, highly professional, and with a surprisingly strong sense of and pas-

sion for justice and fairness," Bennett said.

Attorney Bruce Berline, the court-appointed on stand-by counsel for Robinson, argued at the April 21 hearing that the defendant had not received a detention hearing and therefore he should be released immediately on his own cognizance.

The trial of Robinson was set for Aug. 9, 2010 at 9am.

Robinson has bombarded the federal court with handwritten motions that he filed without a lawyer.

The indictment charged Robinson with fraudulent uttering of a private security, making and uttering of a fictitious obligation, and mail fraud.

According to the indictment,

on Dec. 19, 2008, Robinson made a counterfeited and forged document—a Secured Funding and Offset Bond—purportedly registered with the U.S. Department of Treasury.

The "Offset Bond" which declared a value of being \$200 million was paid to the order of Oceania Insurance Corp., a company registered and doing business in the CNMI.

2 convenient locations to better serve you!



Beach Road Clinic
next to Megabyte,
Beach Road, Garapan
235-2030



HARDT EYE CLINIC

DAVID HARDT, O.D. | DON HARDT, O.D.

Using advanced technology combined with old-fashioned caring to provide unhurried and understandable exams.

Insurance plans and all major credit cards are gladly accepted

Triple J Motors
SPRING
SERVICE SPECIAL



BUMPER-TO-BUMPER Maintenance Service

- Oil Change using Castrol GTX, including new oil filter
- Clean brake system, check steering & suspension
- Inspect and rotate tires
- Check fuel tank, lines, hoses and connections, plus add Johnson's Fuel-Injector Cleaner
- Inspect front and rear axle boots and joints
- Adjust belts
- Inspect emission control
- Clean air filter
- Test battery & clean terminals - Charge if necessary
- Check underbody for damage, rust or corrosion
- Perform minor chassis lubrication and topping of low fluids

Plus, receive a
FREE

Little Trees
Car Air
Freshener

and

Turtle Wax
F21 Tire Foam
& Shine
21oz.



Castrol

Customers First



TRIPLE J MOTORS PARTS & SERVICE

Located on Beach Road, Chalan Lau Lau
Open Mon-Fri: 7:30am to 5:30pm • Sat: 7:30am to 5:00pm
Tel: 234-7133/3051 ext 25/27 • Fax: 234-3052

Email:
serviceadvisor@triplejsaipan.com
rsteele@triplejsaipan.com

www.carssaipan.com

EMS*

ANYTIME. ANYWHERE. WE'LL BE THERE.



4th Annual Firehouse
OPEN HOUSE

May 22, 2010
9:00 am to 2:00 pm • Capital Hill Fire Station



EMSC
Emergency Medical
Services for Children

Department of Public Safety

Office of EMS

Saipan: (670) 664-9135 • Tinian: (670) 433-9030 • Rota: (670) 532-9081



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL CUC-RFP-10-028

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms for the supply of (2) Two Bucket Trucks (Aerial Lift) for CUC Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Bucket Trucks will be used to carry out major repairs to 13.8kV distribution Feeder #3, and to grad Feeder-1 and Feeder-2 from 4.160 kV to 13.8kV.

The Scope-of-Work and Bid package will be **e-mailed** upon request to all interested offeror, by the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, during working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.), Monday thru Friday, except government observed holiday, **until June 11, 2010**.

One (1) Original and Six (1) Copies must be submitted in a seal envelope marked "CUC-RFP 10-028, Rota Bucket Trucks" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, Room No. 4, 3rd Floor Joeten Dandan, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan MP 96950, no later than **June 18, 2010 AM, (CHST) local time**. Late submissions and conditional proposal will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the proposal. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety acceptable to the CNMI Office of the Attorney General. A performance and payment bond of hundred (100%) percent each of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety companies must hold a certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety for proposal security or other surety acceptable to the CNMI Office of the Attorney General. No advance payment will be authorized on the project on an Irrevocable Letter of Credit (100% aggregate contract cost/ CUC Beneficiary) or a payment bond. All insurers questions, concerns and qualification should be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Offerors must submit a Clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposal and wave any imperfection to CUC-RFP-10-028 in the interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM local time on June 15, 2010 10:00 AM (CHST)** to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr., Procurement and Supply Manager via email at msablan@cucgov.net, Mr. Wallon Young, Deputy Director Power System Rehabilitation via email at wallon59@yahoo.com and Mr. Charles Manglona, Deputy Director, CUC Rota at charles@cucgov.net.

/s/ ABE UTU MALAE
Assistant Executive Director for Operation

/s/ ANTONIO S. MUNA
Executive Director



MONETH G. DEPOSA

The 14 gold medalists in the 9th Annual CCHLC Academic Challenge Bowl competition proudly show off their medals after the awards ceremony Saturday at Chacha Oceanview Junior High School.

Koblerville Elementary tops Academic Challenge Bowl

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Koblerville Elementary School topped the 9th Annual Chamorro and Carolinian Language Heritage Studies Academic Challenge Bowl competition, sweeping five of the 14 gold medals last Saturday at Chacha Oceanview Junior High School.

There were over 50 students from 16 public schools that joined the competition which main objective was to promote and enhance the students' interest in the indigenous languages.

Besides the five gold medals, Koblerville was also named recipient of two silver awards for both Chamorro and Carolinian language competitions, which allowed it to top contest's medal tally.

Rota's Sinapalo Elementary School finished runner-up after winning six medals overall, which included three gold, two silver, and a bronze medal.

Kagman Elementary School also went home with five medals including two gold, two silver, and a bronze.

Tinian Elementary School and Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School were tied for third place after both won four medals. Tinian went home with one silver and three bronze medals, while GTC got one gold, two silver, and a bronze medal.

Dandan Elementary School and Tanapag Elementary School also won three medals each in the competition, while Chacha Oceanview Junior High School received a gold and a silver awards.

Garapan Elementary School was also victorious when it won gold in the sixth grade division along with Rota Junior High who emerged champion in the Chamorro category in its division.

William S. Reyes Elementary School and Hopwood Junior High School each also won a bronze

medal from the competition.

Throughout the five-hour competition set for first through 8th grade students, parents and teachers were seen extending support to their contestants.

Gold medalist Aisha Rebuenog, an 8th grader from Chacha Oceanview Junior High School, expressed her joy upon getting the top award in her division.

She has been in the competition since her third grade and was the second time she went home with a gold medal from the contest.

"It feels good and I have fun throughout the competition," she told *Saipan Tribune* after the awarding rites, adding that she prepared for the contest since last month and was happy that all their efforts were paid off.

Rebuenog acknowledged the importance of the competition in the preservation of the indigenous language and culture.

All participants in the competition were the top students selected to represent their schools in the annual contest, which is conducted based on the PSS Chamorro/Carolinian Language Heritage Studies standards and benchmarks.

Pat Kapileo, PSS coordinator for CCLHS, described this year's turnout as a success emphasizing the great performance demonstrated by the students.

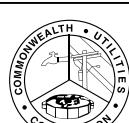
There were 25 total questions given to participants that covered five content areas—math, science, social studies, language arts, and CCLHS. All questions were given orally in vernacular to measure the knowledge of students in the lessons learned from the CCLHS class throughout the year.

"It's very good. We saw great improvement from our students," Kapileo told *Saipan Tribune*, lauding the involvement of both parents and teachers in the progress of the children.

PSS has its own benchmarks and standards for CCLHS program which addresses interpersonal communication, reading process, writing process, cultural values and academic oral communication of students.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BID CUC-IFB-10-032

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified individuals or firms for the urgent supply of major overhaul and limited running parts for MITSUI #1 OVERHAUL project at Rota Power Plant CNMI.

Emergency generator sets will be used to power the island of Rota, while CUC takes down MITSUI #1 for major engine overhaul and rehabilitation. MITSUI #1 is seriously overdue for overhaul and the power situation on Rota is very critical.

A site visit and pre-bid meeting is not necessary, but bidders who wish to visit Rota power plant will be permitted with prior approval. All proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on part of the proposers due to a lack of information or understanding of the plant site conditions in the course of the Contractor's preparation of a bid or performance of work under the contract.

The Scope-of-Work and Bid package will be **e-mailed** upon request, to all interested bidders, by the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, during working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.), Monday thru Friday, except government observed holidays, **until June 9, 2010**.

One (1) original and Six (6) copies must be submitted in a seal envelope marked "**IFB 10-032 MITSUI#1 OVERHAUL PARTS**" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, Room No.4, 3rd Floor Joeten Dandan, P.O.Box 501220, Saipan MP 96950, no later than **Wednesday, June 16, 2010 at 10:00 AM, (CHST)** local time, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

The contractor will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and wave any imperfection in the bid proposal in the interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

All inquires must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM local time on **June 11, 2010** to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr., Procurement & Supply Manager via email at msablan@cucgov.net; Mr. Wallon Young, Deputy Director Power System Rehabilitation via email at wallon59@yahoo.com; Mr. Charles Manglona, Deputy Director, CUC Rota via email at charles@cucgov.net.

/s/ DEBORAH FISHER
Legal Counsel

/s/ ABE UTU MALAE
Assistant Executive Director for Operation

/s/ ANTONIO S. MUNA
Executive Director



IT&E SUMMER WORK PROGRAM

Learn about the telecommunications industry and get paid!

IT&E has 10 summer positions available for current college and high school students:

REQUIREMENTS:

- ◆ At least 16 years old
- ◆ Proof that the student is currently enrolled in school or proof that he/she will be enrolled for Fall 2010
- ◆ Official school transcript with a minimum 3.3 GPA submitted in a sealed envelope
- ◆ Recommendation, preferably from a prior instructor, advisor, dean, or principal
- ◆ Legally authorized to work in the CNMI

Some positions may also require a valid driver's license.

To apply, students must complete an IT&E application and submit it, along with other required documents, to the IT&E Human Resource office, located at the IT&E Susupe Headquarters no later than May 21, 2010. **Any inquiries must be made by the students applying.** They may call 234-6600.

IT&E is an Equal Opportunity Employer

BEFORE THE COMMONWEALTH PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

REVIEW OF COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION'S UTILITY RATES

DOCKETS 09-1, 09-2 & 10-1

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at 9:00 a.m. on May 21, 2010, the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission [Commission] will conduct a public hearing at the conference room of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, located on the first floor of the Family Building, Garapan Street, Garapan to receive evidence, argument, discussion and public comment on the following regulatory matters concerning the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation [CUC].

1. Docket 10-1: CUC petition for rate relief.

The Commission will examine CUC's April 1, 2010 amended petition for rate relief, which requests that effective on or about June 21, 2010 [the effective date] its water service fees and metered rates per 1,000 gallons for all customer classes be increased by 3 percent. In its amended petition, CUC also requests that: a) its wastewater monthly service fee for all customer classes be established and increased on the effective date from \$8.20 to \$15.99 and then on October 1, 2010 to \$21.59; b) its residential and commercial metered rate per 1,000 gallons of wastewater service be increased on the effective date from \$1.37 to \$2.67 and on then on October 1, 2010 to \$3.61; and that c) its government metered rate per 1,000 gallons of wastewater service be increased on the effective date from \$30.00 to \$59.00 and then on October 1, 2010 to \$80.00. CUC asserts that these increases are just, reasonable and necessary to enable it to comply with: a) the statutory mandate that it bill and collect adequate rate revenue to recover the costs associated with the operation and delivery of service, including financial reserves and b) the requirements of the Federal Stipulated Order dated March 11, 2009, in USA v. CUC and CNMI.

In its amended petition, CUC also requests that the Commission approve: a) a credit card convenience fee of 2.1% for customers who pay their utility bills with Visa or MasterCard and a fee of 3.7% for customers who pay their bills with American Express; and b) a standby charge of \$5 per kWh for CUC commercial customers, which are connected to the CUC electric grid and who regularly generate some portion of their own electricity needs. CUC's amended petition is supported by testimony and documentary evidence, which is available for public review at the Chamber's office and also on-line at the Chamber's website [www.saipanchamber.com] under Public Utilities, Docket 10-01.

The Commission tasked its independent regulatory consultant [Georgetown] to investigate, review and submit testimony on CUC's petition. Georgetown's report was filed with the Commission on May 5, 2010 and is also available for public review at both the Chamber's office and website. In its report, Georgetown asserts that: a) no present increase in CUC water rates is necessary; b) the staggered wastewater rate increases sought by CUC should be frontloaded and implemented on the effective date; c) a flat charge of \$40 per month should be established for unmetered residential water service and a flat rate of \$204 per month be established for unmetered commercial water service; and d) a residential and commercial monthly wastewater service fee of \$18.72 should be implemented on the effective date; and e) CUC's wastewater tariff should be redesigned.

2. Docket 09-1: CUC Electric Division, LEAC Rate and collateral matters.

Pursuant to a tariff [levelized energy adjustment clause] established on December 19, 2008 by Commission order, the Commission reviews and approves the semi-annual rate, which CUC is authorized to charge its electric customers in order to recover its projected fuel and related expenses during the period. On May 5, 2010, CUC and Georgetown filed a joint report and recommendation that for the period June 1, 2010 through September 30, 2010, the current LEAC rate of \$0.20147 cents per kWh be increased to \$0.27634 cents per kWh. The proposed increase would increase the average monthly residential electric bill [1,000 kWh per month] by approximately 36 percent. This joint report also reconciles projected versus actual fuel expenses incurred by CUC in prior LEAC periods and recommends appropriate adjustments in order to keep LEAC charges revenue neutral. The May 5, 2010 joint CUC/Georgetown LEAC report is available for public inspection at the Chamber's office and at its website under Public Utilities - Docket 09-1. At the public hearing, the Commission will also consider CUC's April 1, 2010 petition for reconsideration of the Commission's September 3, 2009 order regarding regulatory conditions for approval of the CUC-CDA Preferred Stock Agreement, as further discussed in said order.

3. Docket 09-2: CUC - Water and Wastewater Divisions.

On January 31, 2010, CUC petitioned the Commission for approval of certain elements of a proposed settlement agreement between CUC, Guam Pacific Power Corporation and CPPC Construction. On May 5, 2010, Georgetown issued a report, in which it expressed serious reservations about certain elements of the transaction. The parties will be requested to brief the Commission on this regulatory matter at the public hearing.

THE COMMISSION WELCOMES THE PUBLIC'S ATTENDANCE at the May 21, 2010 public hearing and will welcome public comments at the conclusion of the hearing. Persons who desire to formally participate in the hearing pursuant to 4 CMC § 8409(j) should on or before May 14, 2010 file with the Commission at the Chamber's office an application and offer of proof in accordance with §8409(j) and Commission Procedural Rule 11(c). Subsequent to the public hearing, the Commission will schedule, notice and conduct a special business meeting to consider and make decisions regarding matters considered at the public hearing. Further information about the public hearing and the public's right to participate may be obtained from Commissioner Kyle Calabrese at 670-233-7150.



CNMI-OSHA ONSITE

Consultation Program

2/F Afetna Bldg., San Antonio, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: (670) 236-0913/0988/0989 • Fax: (670) 664-3158
Email: guerrero.ray@dot.gov



CNMI-OSHA ONSITE CONSULTATION

Are you an employer who wants to protect your employees' safety and health and needs some expert assistance? Are you concerned that your business cannot afford the cost of professional help? If you are...

All you need to do is request this professional service from the CNMI-OSHA ON-SITE Consultation Program and is free of charge to eligible small employers in the general construction, employer provided housing and other industries. Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), in partnership with the CNMI, designed and funded this program to provide expert advice to high hazard small business that want help to establish a safe and healthful working and living condition.

No Citations are issued and No Penalties are proposed. CNMI-OSHA ON-SITE Consultation is a confidential service. What is the catch? The employer must correct all serious hazards by the agreed upon correction date.

Take the first step toward building a long-term cooperative safety and health management in your workplace. For additional information, please contact Mr. Reynaldo DeLeon Guerrero, for information and assistance.

This ad is paid for by U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

Local student part of UofM Solar Car Team

Saipan's InYong Chung and 18 of his schoolmates from the University of Michigan Solar Car Team are working full time preparing to defend their back-to-back National Championships and become the first team in history to win three consecutive American Solar Challenge titles.

Last fall the team competed with its solar car Infinium in the World Solar Challenge, an 1,800-mile race across the Australian Outback.

Facing fierce competition from University and corporate teams from around the world, Infinium placed 3rd and took home the 2009 Technical Innovation Award. The team is now preparing Infinium to race from Tulsa, OK to Chicago, IL in ASC this June; this will be the 2009 vehicles second and final race.

ASC 2010s 1,100-mile route is the shortest it has been in a decade, challenging the teams to achieve a higher level of precision to stay ahead in this race. Although the solar car can only carry its single driver, racing requires an entire crew of team members to compete in the unique circumstance of a solar car race. One of the most important race crew roles is that of strategist. Strategists use computer simulation and optimization to determine how fast to race the solar car, and make decisions that ultimately determine our success in the race. Because the race is held on open roads with public traffic, the race crew caravan serves not only to provide race strategy, but also to protect the 600-lb. solar car from street traffic. The six-vehicle caravan is seamlessly coordinated through the use of radio communication equipped on all caravan vehicles, including the solar car.

The University of Michigan Solar Car Team is an entirely student-run organization whose purpose is to design, finance, build, and race a solar-powered vehicle in competitions around North America and the world. We are dedicated to the development of our members as teammates, educators, and leaders, and to the education of our community on the potentials of alternative energy technology.

Contact the University of Michigan Solar Car Team: 3411 EECS 1301 Beal Ave Ann Arbor, MI 48109 Phone: 1-734-764-2257 www.umsolar.com. (PR)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

MAY 17, 1999

CPA scrambles for cash to improve airport

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is studying various financing scheme to raise the additional \$9 to \$11 million needed to carry out the expansion of West Tinian Airport, according to Carlos H. Salas, executive director. With the \$4 million Capital Improvement Fund set aside by the Tinian Legislative Delegation and the \$4.6 million grant of the Federal Aviation Administration, Salas said the ports authority would have to look for the best financing offer to complete the project. The Tinian Delegation had emphasized that development of the casino industry on the island hinges on the capability of the existing West Tinian airport runway to accommodate bigger aircraft to bring in substantial numbers of people on direct flights to the island.

Transfer of DPS functions draw more protests

A proposal to transfer some key functions of the Department of Public Safety to mayors has angered a number of officials in the administration and some have called for the resignation of Commissioner Charles Ingram if he insists on pursuing the plan. "This only reflects that he cannot handle the job," said a ranking official of the government who declined to be identified. Tenorio on Friday met with Ingram, but it was not clear whether the police chief received a lashing from the CNMI leader, who previously expressed surprise about news reports attributing such plan to the DPS commissioner.

MAY 17, 2000

PSS busing service appeals for community cooperation

The Public School System Pupil Transportation Services is asking the PSS administration to restrict students' bus pick-up to cover only primary roads. This is to mitigate further damage Saipan's secondary rough roads have done to the poor state of PSS' old buses, according to Administrative Service's Jess Sanchez. Mr. Sanchez is urging parents to meet PSS halfway by having the children ready on bus stops located at primary roads nearest them.

Education leaders establish task force

Education leaders yesterday initiated steps to organize a special task force which will take the lead in preparing students acquire necessary skills that will land them competitive jobs in the future. Members of the Legislature, Board of Education, Board of Regents, Northern Marianas College, Public School System, and the private sector yesterday agreed during a meeting at Dai-Ichi hotel to institute a group that will revive and improve vocational and occupational programs in schools. The task force is expected to be comprised of representatives from all sectors of the community. House Committee on Education Chair Brigida Ichihara said the task force's main agenda is to improve the teaching, nursing, and trade skills among students by bringing back the quality of school programs being offered at NMC, Marianas High School, and other schools.

MAY 17, 2001

Soll told to expedite ruling on lawyer's tenure with AG

Asst. Atty. General William E. Betz is pushing Attorney General Herb Soll to expedite the release of a decision that would determine his fate at AGO amid reports that he is about to be terminated for alleged dereliction of duty. The government lawyer, in a memorandum addressed to Mr. Soll, said he has found it impossible to work effectively since news broke that AGO was in the process of firing him. The Civil Rights Division lawyer blamed Mr. Soll for the predicament he now reportedly faces, saying that he has been hounded with calls and questions on whether he could still handle cases that have previously been assigned to him.

CPA needs \$40M to fund 5-year plan

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is seeking financial and technical assistance from the US Department of Transportation for the realization of its five-year airport improvement masterplan. Executive Director Carlos H. Salas said about \$40 million will be needed to effectively carry out CPA's priority infrastructure projects on Saipan, Tinian and Rota. Mr. Salas said the transportation department promised to help CPA with its proposed terminal expansion projects for the Saipan, Tinian and Rota international airports. Under the five-year plan, CPA will carry out major improvements in all of the three islands' air transport facilities, with Saipan needing \$29 million, Rota would need \$1 million and Tinian would require about \$10 million.

MAY 17—21, 2010
IS SUPPORT OUR TROOPS WEEK

— TROOPS TO TEACHERS —
OUR FUTURE EDUCATORS

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR
MILITARY SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY
AND COMMEND YOU ON YOUR
COMMITMENT TO EDUCATION!

FROM THE
CNMI State Board of Education
-AND-
Public School System Family



Students First

Opinion

Saipan Tribune

CNN'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XX, Issue No. 116

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Greece and us: The real danger is within

There is good news and bad news about the debt crisis in Greece. The good news is that, notwithstanding stock markets' breathtaking plunge and recovery of recent days, it doesn't seem likely to do much damage to the U.S. economy.

The bad news is that the U.S. economy will suffer a lot if this country keeps following the sort of fiscal policies that have created the crisis in Greece.

Greece's problem is that it has lived far beyond its means. Its government budget deficit is now nearly 14 percent of its gross domestic product, and its total debt is 115 percent of GDP. The Greek parliament has approved some painful cuts and tax increases, but recent strikes and riots raise doubts whether the government can make them stick.

The nearly \$1 trillion bailout by the European Union and the International Monetary Fund has reassured investors, who had grown very skittish about getting repaid. Markets jittered and jived Tuesday, but that major rescue effort seems to have halted the panic and kept it from spreading, at least for now.

Though the Greek economy is small, its collapse could have dampened growth even on this side of the Atlantic, so the improvement is good news for Americans. Fortunately, the U.S. economy is showing signs of a durable recovery, with three consecutive quarters of growth and low inflation. Hiring is also picking up at last.

Banks have emerged from the downturn with stronger balance sheets. Robust growth in countries such as China and India is serving as a tonic for economies in the rest of the world.

But the hopeful short-term prospects here in the U.S. are no reason for complacency. The real problem for the American economy is that the federal government (and many states, insolvent Illinois included) is making the same fiscal mistakes that led Greece to the edge of the cliff.

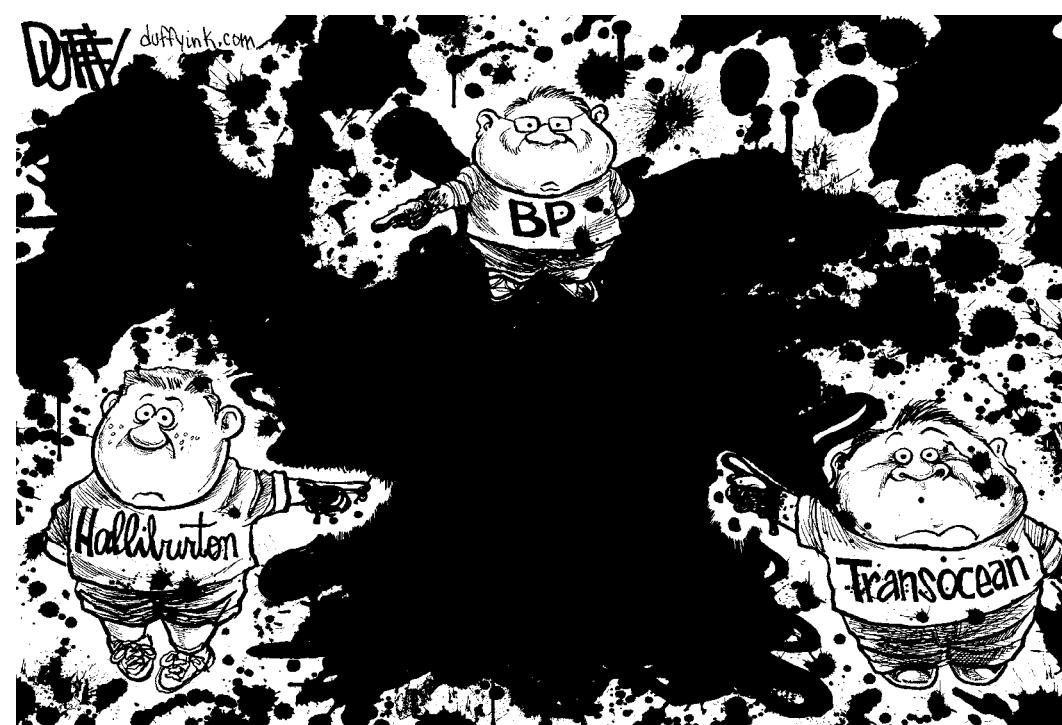
The federal budget deficit is expected to top 10 percent of GDP this year, the highest since World War II, and next year won't be much better. Given current trends, the total debt will reach a scary 90 percent of GDP just a decade from now.

Much of the recent deficit spending in Washington stems from a defensible response to a severe economic crisis. But once that is past, spending will continue to rise, by nearly 60 percent over the next decade. Revenues will lag far behind.

Add in an unexpected economic downturn sometime in the next few years, and a bad situation could get much worse — a la what's happening in Greece. The U.S. has the advantage that the dollar enjoys a preferred place as the international reserve currency, giving our policymakers more latitude. But that status is not guaranteed for all time.

If Americans want to avoid the fate of today's Greece, they had better do what the Greeks failed to do: scale down what they demand from the government and accept the need to pay for what they get. Otherwise, our future will bear a grim resemblance to Greece's present.

(c) 2010, Chicago Tribune



Let's start our own business!

If you believe as I do that we can improve ourselves and our economy, please continue reading. If you believe that we can do nothing to help ourselves and feel that the only outside investors or more freebies from the U.S. government are the only solutions, stop reading here. Go on to the sports page. However I hope that the youth and more determined citizens will read on.

The first step to rebuilding our economy is to take it back step by step. Let's begin with the small business shops from where we purchase our daily necessities such as grocery stores and the many other shops we frequent daily. At the same time we will make ourselves stronger financially.

For example, we have over 150 grocery stores scattered over Saipan. Why are about 95 percent of them owned and operated by outsiders? Do you know what their revenue is each week? Do any of us know the markup on the items we buy? Why do you think so many small businesses are owned and operated by foreigners? It's because a well-run small business offers a profitable living—more than we would earn as an employee in that store or working for the government.

What is keeping us from opening and operating a grocery store in our neighborhood? Why don't we operate a beauty shop or barbershop? There are over 70 beauty and barbershops and not one of them is owned and operated by us. How about a restaurant serving authentic local food? Hey, how about a clothing store? Why not open a handicraft shop featuring locally made bead jewelry, paper novelty items such as those made from magazines like the prisoners make? We could include woodcarvings and many other local handicrafts.

How about we open up local fruit and produce stalls and locally owned fish stalls around the island instead of these being owned and operated by non-indigenous people? Check out the various cosmetics that we can make from coconuts and other local fruits such as papaya. Have any of us considered making soap from coconuts? It is very smooth on the skin. How about a local medicinal herb shop where both the tourists and we locals can purchase these items?

Instead of the government doing all the tree, roadside brush, and hedge trimmings, let's form a group and make a proposal to the government to let us do the work. In Hawaii it is very successful. There is similar highway cleaning work we could also solicit from the government. This spreads the work and revenue around.

There are over 60 automobile repair shops on Saipan? How many are locally owned? Why are they also mainly operated by non-indigenous residents? Are you telling me that we don't know how to repair autos and trucks? We could solicit the various government agencies such as public works, the hospital, even the police department cars to outsource their repair work to us? Those would be great contracts which repeat themselves. Think about it!

We know how to bake bread and pastries. I bet a good cookie shop would go over well. We can even sell the various baked goodies in restaurants and bars, especially where tourist frequent. Also why do restaurants never offer local fresh fruit as desserts? Why don't we who grow them and solicit their business?

Soon the students of NMTI will be ready to operate their own home-improvement shops. We can learn how to do home improvement work. It is a huge and profitable market. I was in it for ten years in Hawaii. Have we considered exporting some of the unique products or items we have or could make on Saipan? For example, how about perfumes and lotions made from flowers such as orchids or from other products. Have you ever thought about making and

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is the former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.



exporting coconut vinegar? The list goes on and on.

Our imagination is limitless. But we need the desire and determination. A lot of unique things we have on Saipan could be easily sold on the Internet. Learn about Internet selling. It brings the whole world to your living room. Does all of this sound crazy? Maybe. But we don't know until we try, right?

The above mentions only a few of the small shops and businesses we could own and operate in which we can earn a handsome profit and the pride in doing so. And all the money we and our neighbors spend in our shops would stay here. Our tourists would be happy to visit the shops as well. Let's do it!

Is it lack of money? Lack of know-how? Lack of ambition or desire? If it is lack of money, it is available. That is a minor problem. If it is lack of know-how to operate a small business that can be quickly learned. However if it is a lack of ambition or desire, then you have a major problem which only you can resolve.

For anyone interested in exploring the possibilities of owning and operating his/her own business, the Northern Marianas Trades Institute will be offering a new **Entrepreneurial Class** for learning how to set up your small business on May 24. The course will be a practical one. You, the student, will not only learn the basic of setting up your own business, but together with the instructor actually set one up.

Yes, all the work of starting a business will be done together. We will write the business plan, search for the location, and do all the necessary market research. Best of all, you and the instructor will find where the money will come from to start the new venture. You will be shown how to apply for a loan. We will also discuss the legal structure of your new business.

The class starts on Monday, May 24. Please call the school at 235-6684 to enroll. This is your opportunity to fulfill your dream.

Both men and women are invited regardless of age. The only criteria are the strong desire to own a business. This class is not a theory course, but a practical one. Don't worry about the fee. We will find it together. If you are really serious to begin a business of your own but have been afraid to do so, then this is the must course.

While everybody is crying doom and gloom—you will be shouting: "It's boom time!" It is in times like this that the people who push ahead will most likely prosper. Dreams come true to the brave of heart. The road to your prosperity lies just ahead. Let's join hands and walk together towards it. We can realize our dreams if we wish and work hard enough for them.

Please don't forget to register as soon as possible. The course starts on May 24. Class size will be limited so register early. Remember it is a personalized course for your new business venture. Meanwhile think about and research what business you want to own and operate. The road to prosperity lies just ahead. Join hands with me and let's travel down it.

EDITORIAL POLICY

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Minding in May our mental health

No virtuous act is quite as virtuous from the standpoint of our friend or foe as from our own; therefore, we are saved by the final form of love, which is forgiveness.

Bill Weiss, one of two medical practitioners who are covering physician-challenged Tinian Health Center, wrote not too long ago with a tone of alarm about the increasing evidence of anxiety overload being exhibited by our population.

Reading the recent net traffic occasioned by the DOI's recommendation to the United States Congress on the disposition of the not-quite resident "aliens" in the CNMI before 11-30-11 leaves one in the disquietude of *angst*. Looking at our stance regarding the paradoxically needed yet frequently exploited and reviled residents of non-Chamolinian origins and extraction, and of non-immigrant legal status, one gets the impression that a pillar to our social stability had come unglued.

Stark polarization is rapidly forming, with the indigenes perceived as "threatened," or, at least, disrespected and ignored by decision makers, and the overstaying non-*haole* expats as gaining courage and assertiveness, perceived as being on a 'warpath' abetted by the Feds and their carpet-bagging mercenaries. It is anxiety time in paradise as claims gets aired: one side cowers in defensive breast-beating, and the other takes their new sense of power into "in-your-face" *konfrantasi*.

China in the last few months saw despondents express frustrations by inflicting violence on children and then taking their own lives. The latter is significant because the ultimate punishment of execution as a deterrent does not work. In fact, the opposite happened. The swift execution of a well-publicized perpetrator had not stopped the senseless killing of the innocent. The prospect of death deters no one, and labeling homicidal persons as "criminals," rather than as persons with mental health issues acting out their pent-up frustrations, benefits no one.

It is easy to dismiss those who express frustrations in violent acts with conventional labels such as 'terrorist,' branding them in our current lexicon of undesirable aliens as outside the norm of legitimacy.

NORTHERN MARIANAS IN A NUTSHELL

A brief look at sovereignty, the Covenant, self-government, & economy

The U.S. Secretary of Interior's recommendations to the U.S. Congress for long-term status for legal aliens (so-called nonresident) workers who have resided in the CNMI for five years or more is a well-known current controversy with compelling pro and con issues. It is not the subject of this article to suggest a position one way or the other as each side has many publicly expressed opinions—mine need not be added. Rather, the purpose in this series is to look back at a point in time to what I believe to be the foundation of the issue. Hopefully, those new to the islands will find this summary of "selected" historical accounts of interest to the current discussion.

During the late '60s and early '70s the then six districts which composed the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, TTPI, (formerly the Japanese Mandated Islands), consisted of the island groups of Belau (Palau), Yap, Chuuk (Truk), Pohnpei (Ponape), Kosrae (Ku-sae), the Marshalls and the Northern Marianas. The U.S. Territory of Guam was not part of the Trust Territory.

Being a trust territory under the auspices of the United Nations Security Council, the United States as the administering authority under Article 6 of the Trusteeship Agreement accepted the obligation to: *"foster the development of such political institutions as are suited to the trust territory and shall promote the development of the inhabitants of the trust territory toward self-government or independence as may be appropriate to the particular circumstances of the trust territory and its peoples and the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned," etc., etc. "(1)*

In preparation for what was to eventually be a plebiscite for a change in political status, the Congress of Micronesia requested that the High Commissioner undertake a program of Education for Self Government to attempt to prepare the potential voters of Micronesia with information on the economy, various forms of government, etc., for that time when their selection of a form of government would be decided. I recall this period very well as I was a member of the ESG effort along with Sam McPhetres and a group of others responsible for implementing the program.

Negotiations for self-government, and thus eventual termination of the Trusteeship Agreement, began in 1970. The people of the Marianas were the first of all the former Trust Territory entities to decide their future political identity; they decided to enter into a Commonwealth arrangement in political union with the United States. In all of Micronesia they were the only island group to do so.

The people of the Northern Marianas, by 78.8 percent of the votes cast in a plebiscite held on June 17, 1975, elected to accept a negotiated Covenant with the United States. This became U.S. Public Law 94-241 when enacted by the United States Congress and became

mate human response (unless we are the ones doing it, in which case victims are 'collateral damage'), such as the guy who packed his SUV with incendiaries and drove it to NYC's heartland. The young man was burdened by a deep sense of failure with the economic collapse of his circumstances, and under the shadows of a father's frustrations with a Pakistani Air Force career.

Condemning the actions of those whose identities are suddenly reduced to insignificance, and vocations drastically dismissed into irrelevance and resort to violence out of frustrations is the easy way out. This is true of both extremes of the political spectrum. Trying to understand the enigma of human behavior in its full complexity tend to point back to our own inadequately understood struggles.

I had a 15-year-old in a 6th grade class transferred from another school in the middle of the year for behavioral reasons. He was a quiet guy, told in the previous four years that he did not measure up to the academic requirements of his age. The distress caused in the young man is unimaginable, not to mention the humiliation in having to live through the perceived sneers of peers much younger than he was. Once I reminded him of proper classroom behavior boundaries, he snapped and stared at me with the intensity of one ready to unleash the power of nuclear fusion.

"Be thankful that you are a teacher. . ." he said rather coldly. I found my palms sweating with fear as if I had just seen the face of evil personified, and I was back to the shriveling toad of my Friday-the-13th mode of teenybopper existence, unable to hear the rest of his declaration! And horror of horrors, in my attempt to bolster my sense of security and guard the parameters of my pedagogical righteousness, I fashioned ways to contain this young man and others of his kind, in my classroom. I began acting in belligerent fashion, not unlike the fear in the young man's eyes whose bondage I knew it was my task to liberate.

It is very easy to demonize those who view matters and situations differently than we do. We delight in exposing the alleged limitations of their perspectives, and promote our own as solely the responsible posture. We relish our clarity in pointing out how lame others' grasp of the contradiction is, and the idiocy of the proposals as they forward to deal with it. We do this patronizingly with the

effective on April 1, 1976, a little more than 30 years after the end of World War II.

On May 28, 1986 the United Nations Trusteeship Council concluded that the United States had satisfactorily discharged its obligations to the islands. On Nov. 4, 1986 United States citizenship was conferred upon those people of the Northern Marianas who met the necessary qualifications. On Dec. 22, 1990, the Security Council of the United Nations voted to dissolve the trusteeship over the Northern Marianas, Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia.

Now almost a quarter century after citizenship was bestowed upon qualified islanders by presidential order it should be kept in mind that at that time some people of the Northern Marianas, unlike other nationalities seeking U.S. citizenship, were not required to possess comprehensive knowledge of American history or appreciation of the principles of democracy as most Americans perceive them to be. Most foreigners seeking U.S. citizenship must study a variety of subjects related to American history, pass an examination, and swear an oath of allegiance. This was not required of the people of the Northern Marianas.

While the United States government has been accused of "meddling" in the internal affairs of the Commonwealth or alleged to have become involved in CNMI issues considered to be within the purview of self-government, many of the major issues of local concern, namely the lack of an adequate water and power system, poor roads, the importation of foreign workers, are all issues which the United States government has had no involvement—the controls on which were purely local. Indeed, in terms of foreign investment and the locally enacted laws which govern its entry into the Northern Marianas there have been many bills introduced in the local legislature to control foreign investment in the Commonwealth.

At times the CNMI/U.S. relationship has been described as contentious, perhaps because it is still evolving. Indeed, Section 902 of the Covenant permits a reassessment of the relationship every 10 years. It is probably safe to state that some people of the Northern Marianas did not clearly understand what they voted to support when the plebiscite was held in June 1975 to accept a negotiated Covenant with the United States. Certainly they were aware of some of the tangible benefits that would flow from the U. S. Treasury such as better health care, social security, educational assistance, etc.

However, there was probably little knowledge or appreciation of the extent of the full ramifications of an association with the American judicial system and the federal bureaucracy with its myriad of laws and regulatory agencies administering everything from environmental protection to occupational health and safety in the work

By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section.

'differently-abled' community, as if baby-sitting on the disabled is the required task.

Let me cut to the quick. I live out of an archaic notion that is relevant to any crisis-ridden situation expressed well in the above quoted lines from Richard Niebuhr.

Forgiveness is the state when we are liberated from the stranglehold of the past. (Gary Bradley, S.J., is smiling somewhere!) Each of us just normally try to redo what has either been done, or wish to return to a second chance on what we feel had previously been inadequately done. We live out of the longing to redo the past. We all do. Forgiveness is the voice that calls us to reality, "it is done, *finis*; move!" Some of us heed the voice and live on; others continue to live out of delusions of what-is-no-longer and illusions of what-is-not-yet.

When we do heed the voice, we are freed from bondage; we are liberated, and what stands between the future and ourselves is CHOICE. *The future is open; we only need to decide.* 'Grace' happens. The authority of authenticity prevails!

A politics of *forgiveness* is needed around the world, and more so right now in the CNMI. Leadership is not about the strong-willed telling us what to do; it is about any ordinary Juana Cruz gathering and convening people so that they can converse on what they are doing with their future, one conversation at a time. Leaders facilitate people to listen to each other; when we do, we discover that there are no locals and aliens, just neighbors in conversation! Individual and communal mental health becomes manageable. We might even get a handle on the crime rate!

By WILLIAM H. STEWART

Special to the Saipan Tribune



William H. Stewart is an economist, historian, and military cartographer.

place. Thus, the process of learning about the continuing relationship with the United States continues to evolve and be refined as time goes by. Many of the complex issues which were to arise as the future unfolded could not possibly have been foreseen in 1975 and thus a document was produced to permit flexibility in the new political relationship.

To be continued

(1) Richard, Dorothy E., Commander, U.S.N., U.S. Naval Administration of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Volume III, 1957.

Letter to the Editor

'We all do better when we all do better'

I think a quote from the late Minnesota Sen. Paul Wellstone can best summarize my feelings about the uproar over the U.S. Department of Interior's report on the alien worker population in the CNMI and their recommendations to the U.S. Congress.

The late senator said "We all do better when we all do better." I challenge you to take a moment to ponder this profound statement, reach into your soul and think about it. Then tell me how the lowly construction worker, taxi cab driver, hair dresser, accountant, garment factory worker, or even the live-in maid has not in his or her own way contributed to this community.

Lauri B. Ogumoro

Capital Hill

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers.
▲ 89° ▼ 78°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Mostly Sunny	▲ 87 ▼ 80
Palau	Rain	▲ 85 ▼ 77
Yap	Rain	▲ 85 ▼ 77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲ 82 ▼ 77
Pohnpei	Windy	▲ 87 ▼ 77
Kosrae	Breezy	▲ 87 ▼ 82
Majuro	Breezy	▲ 85 ▼ 79

Around The Globe

Auckland	Sunny	▲ 64 ▼ 56
Beijing	Showers	▲ 69 ▼ 58
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲ 82 ▼ 70
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲ 83 ▼ 72
London	Mostly Sunny	▲ 63 ▼ 45
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 73 ▼ 55
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 96 ▼ 78
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲ 67 ▼ 44
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲ 87 ▼ 80
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲ 73 ▼ 54
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲ 76 ▼ 58
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲ 64 ▼ 46
Pusan	Showers	▲ 70 ▼ 60
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲ 67 ▼ 53
Salem	Cloudy	▲ 74 ▼ 52
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 62 ▼ 54
Seoul	Showers	▲ 77 ▼ 58
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲ 74 ▼ 60
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲ 75 ▼ 61

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
4:01 AM	Today	Low Tide: 1.3 Feet
8:38 AM	Today	High Tide: 1.9 Feet
4:12 PM	Today	Low Tide: 0.6 Feet
11:30 PM	Today	High Tide: 1.9 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Sunrise/Sunset			Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	5:48 AM	6:39 PM	Today	8:23 AM	9:49 PM
Tuesday	5:48 AM	6:39 PM	Tuesday	9:25 AM	10:42 PM
Wednesday	5:47 AM	6:40 PM	Wednesday	10:26 AM	11:31 PM
Thursday	5:47 AM	6:40 PM	Thursday	11:26 AM	
Friday	5:47 AM	6:40 PM	Friday	12:23 PM	12:17 AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

ISLAND SNAPSHOT

Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.

BUSINESS

Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.

SAMUT SARI

Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.

TRAVELOGUE

Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.

Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).

Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.

Photos must have been taken in the last two months.

For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.

Fax: (670) 235-3740

Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950

Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.

The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.

For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235-3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website: www.saipantribune.com.

For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 7, 2010

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM				GUAM-ROTA (ROP)			
C09597	5:00am	5:30am	1, 5	C09598	6:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7
SAIPAN-GUAM				GUAM-SAIPAN			
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily	C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily	C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7	C09600	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	Daily	C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09605	6:35pm	7:25pm	Daily	C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09599	9:35pm	10:25pm	Daily	C09606	8:10pm	9:00pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	5:55am	8:35am	Daily	DL290	10:00am	2:35pm	Daily
DL297	3:35pm	6:15pm	Daily	DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
DL289	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily	DL288	8:40pm	1:15am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
0Z608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5	0Z607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
0Z604	2:20am	6:10am	1	0Z605	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
0Z604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	0Z603	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
0Z606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7	0Z603	8:10pm	1:40	

Dibision Dos Areglu

Dos asuntu dumibidi tanota pago na tiemu: 1). Prinipon para umana' fan sudadanon Amerikanu i tautau hiyong guine. 2). Attikulu Dose, pot disposition tanu 'nai ma limite haye siña gumi tanu guine.

I lai federat (USPL 110-229) ilegña na debi u guaha konstattion entalo Interior, Depattamento Homeland Security yan iya Marianas gi areglu siha pot este na asuntu. Ti machogue este nu i Depattamento Interior ayu mina inatisa binibun tautau ta gi un' asuntu 'nai debi umakuñgog hafa sentimentoña.

Siempre i komiten kongreson Amerika u fattu mage para una guaha inekuñgog publiku pot este na asuntu. Estague' propiu na hunta 'nai siña dumaña I natibu para u ekspressia hafa sentimentoña gi mapropopone na areglu.

Tai bali i para tana guaha inekuñgog publiku 'nai hita yan

hita man-asañgane ni binibuta. Naña ya u fattu mage i komiten kongresson Amerika ya ayu 'nai ta labla hafa dipotsihe sentimentoñ tautau este siha na islas. Lau pagu ha 'nai hu lie' impirau i lehislatura. Na' fugu i dañikulu na adelantu gi tanu paraisu!

■■■

I otru pot Attikulu Dose ni chumanda direchon tautauta man-dueñu pot manaque giya Marianas gi sinkuenta siha na sakan. I otru, ayu ha' siña gumai tanu i tautau yangin guaha pot lumenos 25 pot sientu haga'ña Chamorro 'sino Gupalau. I uttimo, i man-gai tanu pagu solu sinkuenta pot sientu inyon niha gi ilegña na tanu niha. I tetehnan inyon i gobietnun iya Marianas.

I primet dos asuntu kontra yan tradision este siha na islas sa' i tradision yan kustumbe pot inafamauleg 'nai ta baba

kanaita gi prohimuta pot para u guaha pas gi relasion todus. Este na pogse' inafamauleg sumen benefisiosu guine gi tano'ta gi halom yan entalu tautau siha. Yangin ilegmu na i tanu ni gaige gi na'anmu hagu solu dueñu, pues i presente na probisition Attikulu Dose solu sinkuenta pot sientu sineude hau.

Kau magahet na iyomu i tanu ya gi mismu tiemu ti dueñu hau? Esta i Attikulu Dose ha setbe hafa intensioña. Ti siña na para ta sige ha' sumañgane i man-dueñon tautau na esta pagu ti matuñgu hafa mauleg na disposision pot tanu niha. Debi u matulaika este ya tanae' man-dueñon tanu sientu pot sientu ni direchon tanu niha.

■■■

Pagu na tiemu, maseha manu un' atan, sige offisiat Marianas man-afulu pot 'nos kuantos asuntun linahyan ni hagas machoneg gi un' banda.

Gaige i administrasion gi kotte yan keha kontra federat, bibu si Speaker Lañg yan geraña kontra

sanhilu na guma; inadisgustun fondu entalu PSS yan administrasian; sige mañgonge empleau i administrasian lau ha anunusia gi mismu tiemu ma-utot oran empleau; sige lokue i lehislatura umesalau pot no ta kuestona i \$4,000 pesus gi mes na stipend ni marisibis. De dios mihi!

■■■

I finatton tautau hiyoñ guine pot chochu. Matuñgo ha' na taya gi kontratan i Covenant Agreement pudet 'nai siña manna' halom applikasion para u fan sudadanon Amerikanu.

Lau sige ha' machalegu este na asuntu kulan mohon i oriñnat na finaton niha pot para u fan libre man-sudadanun Amerikanu.

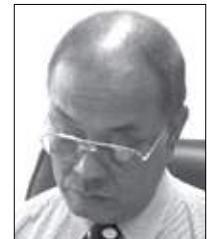
Ti pot silensi i natibu gi este na asuntu na para uma-atisa sentimentoñ niha guine. U fan hanau para Washington ya ayu 'nai u fan lukau sa' ayu propiu 'nai gaige siyan disision pot este na asuntu.

Nahoñg buruka gi tano' entre

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

DelRosario is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section.



Letter to the Editor

A referendum on future of long-term nonresident workers

In the short time since the OIA published its findings, recommendations, and report to the U.S. Congress, it seems that we are being baited to the lion's den. Let me just say it very simply, that the best report to the U.S. Congress is the result of a

referendum on immigration by the indigenous people. It is only one simple question on the ballot. Do you approve the granting of U.S. citizenship to non-U.S. citizens presently residing in the CNMI? Yes. No.

This will be in one page re-

Francisco R. Agulto
Chalan Kanoa

ta patañ i mamamaila na dañu siha kontra hita. Entre ta tuñgu yan ta komprende hafa este siha na asuntu 'sino ta bira iluta kadu ti ta lie' hafa mamamaila'. Ayu 'nai ta mueba hit 'nai atrasau sa' esta ha falulon hit i fetti na pagyon diskuidu.

■■■

Hu faisen i amiguhu Magoo hafa na megañga na ta letke seriosu na asuntu linahyan siha. Ha achetguyu ya ilegña: "Bradda John, mampos bula four by four (kaddum patas guaka) guine ni umañkla titanosta dispues de ta gulusune gi amotsan taloane". Todu man-lolosus, kontodu i guaddian i gima'. Pot fabot ihu!

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
Tel. (670) 234-6866, 234-9447, 234-7689, 234-7670 • Fax. (670) 234-9021
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.mp>



INVITATION FOR BID NMHC IFB 2010-R-003

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds)

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, hereby give notice that NMHC is soliciting sealed bids for the **Construction of the Tinian Amphitheater Parking Lot Infiltration System** in San Jose Village, Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project package consisting of Technical Specifications, Plans and Bid Documents will be available on or after Monday, May 03, 2010, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays. A non-refundable payment of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) is required for each set. Payment shall be by money order or cashier's check (payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation).

Bidding procedures shall be in compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, however, Article 7, "Local Business Preference" as amended by Public Law 15-95 and further amended by Public Law 15-118, is **not available** to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funding for this project.

Bidders are also advised that this project is subject to compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act. All wage rates for laborers, mechanics and all other employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid the current minimum wage or the wage determination for the Commonwealth as required by the CNMI law/Federal law, whichever is higher.

A **pre-bid conference** will be held at **10:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 27, 2010**, at the Tinian Amphitheater in San Jose Village, Tinian and all interested bidders will be given the opportunity to walk through the proposed project, familiarize themselves with the required work and ask questions regarding the project. Attendance at this conference and site visit are considered essential to the bidders' understanding of the project elements and a company that does not have a representative in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be considered as a non-responsive bidder.

Sealed Bids must be marked "NMHC IFB2010-R-003". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and three (3) copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director, Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m., local time, Monday, June 07, 2010**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m., local time, June 07, 2010 and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515 or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside of the CNMI, an original and three (3) copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U. S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than June 07, 2010, AND must be received by Procurement and Supply no later than June 16, 2010. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, June 17, 2010. However, if no Notices of Intent to Bid are received from bidders outside of the CNMI, the bids will be opened at 10:00 a.m., local time, June 07, 2010.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00), a bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. This security may be in the form of a Certified Check, Cashier's Check, or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC), with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Construction of the Tinian Amphitheater Parking Lot Infiltration System". Surely companies must hold a Certificate of Authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsible bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the NMIA 70.30.3.301 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with NMHC and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment Bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000. Pursuant to Governor's Directive 251 dated March 15, 2006, bidders are required to include a Clearance from the Office of the Insurance Commissioner with respect to the financial bonding capability of the bidders' chosen Surety. In addition, the contractor will be required to deliver a certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments or other bond obligations) exceeded the penal amount of each bond.

Performance time for completion of this project is ninety (90) calendar days upon issuance of an official written Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for the delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at Five Hundred Dollars (US\$500.00) per calendar day.

This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant, American Recovery and Reinvestment (CDBG-R) funding provided to the Commonwealth that mandates ALL MATERIALS PURCHASED AND INCORPORATED INTO THE BUILDING/WORK MUST BE MANUFACTURED OR PRODUCED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

This project which goal is to provide economic stimulus as well as jobs creation is also subject to Section 3 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1968 which requires recipients of HUD funds and the contractors to help insure that the economic opportunities generated by these HUD funds are provided to local low-income residents and the businesses that serve them 'to the maximum extent feasible.'

NMHC hereby notifies bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, women and small business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, national origin, political affiliation, creed, sex, religion, age, familial status, and disability status.

The Government reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any defects in the said proposals, if in the sole opinion of NMHC, to do so would be in its best interest. All proposals will become the property of the Government.

/s/
Marcie M. Tomokane
Board Chairwoman & Contracting Officer

/s/
Herman S. Sablan, Director
Division of Procurement & Supply



NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian
Procurement Officer

Alien Workers' Motorcade & Rally



Children and adults gather at the American Memorial Park amphitheater for a peaceful assembly to show support to the U.S. Department of the Interior's recommendation of improved immigration status for long-term foreign workers in the CNMI, and to call on the U.S. Congress to act quickly on the recommendation.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



Hundreds of cars, vans, trucks, sport utility vehicles and bicycles join the motorcade which started from the Kilili Beach Park in Susupe to American Memorial Park in Garapan yesterday afternoon.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



The motorcade and assembly's central message in one billboard.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



Thousands of nonresident workers, their families and supporters crowd the American Memorial Park in Garapan after a motorcade that started in Susupe yesterday afternoon.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



A view of the motorcade from the Hard Rock Café in Garapan.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



Lawyer Steve Woodruff delivers a message to thousands of workers at the American Memorial Park.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



A boy and his father at the American Memorial Park.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



A man waves an American flag shortly before the start of the motorcade.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



Francisco Dela Cruz, a local senior citizen in a wheelchair, waits for his turn to deliver remarks.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



Lolita Velasco wears a head band with the phrase, "Yes to DOI recommendations."

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



A nonresident worker with his statement.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Business

BP's own probe finds safety issues on Atlantis rig

HOUSTON (AP)—The company whose drilling triggered the Gulf of Mexico oil spill also owns a rig that operated with incomplete and inaccurate engineering documents, which one

official warned could “lead to catastrophic operator error,” records and interviews show.

In February, two months before the Deepwater Horizon spill, 19 members of Congress

called on the agency that oversees offshore oil drilling to investigate a whistle-blower’s complaints about the BP-owned Atlantis, which is stationed in 7,070 feet of water more than 150 miles south of New Orleans.

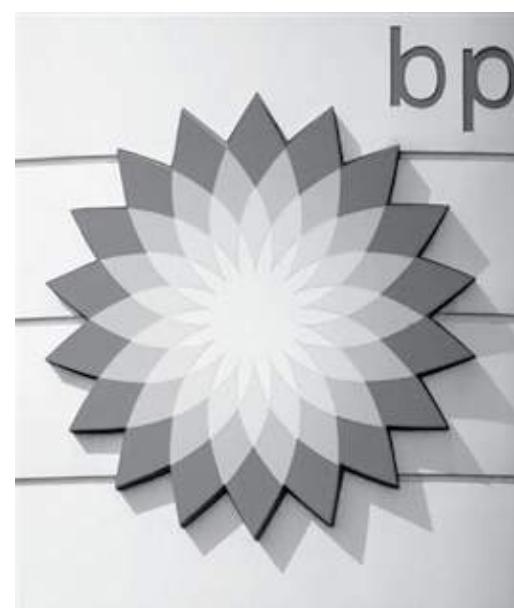
The Associated Press has learned that an independent firm hired by BP substantiated the complaints in 2009 and found that the giant petroleum company was violating its own policies by not having completed engineering documents on board the Atlantis when it began operating in 2007.

Stanley Sporkin, a for-

mer federal judge whose firm served as BP’s ombudsman, said that the allegation “was substantiated, and that’s it.”

The firm was hired by BP in 2006 to act as an independent office to receive and investigate employee complaints.

Engineering documents—covering everything from safety shutdown systems to blowout preventers—are meant to be roadmaps for safely starting and halting production on the huge offshore platform.



In this April 27, 2010 file photo, a sign for a BP petrol station is seen in London.

Obama wants light on Wall Street’s shadowy deals

WASHINGTON (AP)—Closer watch over Wall Street will help consumers make better informed choices about investing and shine light on the shadowy deals that caused the financial crisis, President Barack Obama said Saturday in pushing Congress to pass overhaul legislation.

In his weekly radio and Internet address, Obama said the bill also would curb predatory lending practices, prevent banks from taking on too much risk and give shareholders more of a say.

“Put simply, Wall Street reform will bring greater security to folks on Main Street,” the president said. “My responsibility as president isn’t just to help our economy rebound from this recession; it’s to make sure an economic crisis like the one that helped trigger this recession never happens again,” he said. “That’s what Wall Street reform

will help us do.” The Senate is debating the broadest rewrite of the rules governing Wall Street since the Great Depression. A final vote is possible as early as the coming week. The bill would then have to be merged with the House’s version.

The legislation would set up a mechanism to watch out for risks in the financial system, create a method to liquidate large failing firms and write new rules for complex securities blamed for helping precipitate the 2008 economic crisis. It also would create a new consumer protection agency, a key point for Obama.

The Senate version calls for an independent bureau within the Federal Reserve to write and enforce regulations that would police lending, while the House bill has a stand-alone agency.

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP)—More than 200,000 small nonprofits across the nation are days away from losing their tax-exempt status because they haven’t filed a new form with the Internal Revenue Service. Many of these groups already operate on razor-thin budgets and some worry an unexpected tax bill could force organiza-

tions to close.

“The nonprofits in your backyards, some of them are going to be gone,” said Suzanne Coffman, a spokeswoman for GuideStar, which tracks data on nonprofits.

It’s most likely the nonprofits aren’t aware of the Monday deadline that only applies to groups that report \$25,000

or less in income, excluding churches. Those organizations may not find out until Jan. 1, 2011, when they’re notified they have to pay taxes on donations they thought were exempt. And it could be months before their nonprofit status is restored.

Congress required the form, called a 990-N, when it amend-

ed the tax code three years ago and groups with a fiscal year ending Dec. 31 had until Monday to meet the deadline.

The Urban Institute’s National Center for Charitable Statistics, which conducts economic and social policy research, estimated Friday that 214,000 nonprofit organizations haven’t filed the form as required.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BID PSS IFB 10-056

“ELECTRICAL UPGRADE AT HOPWOOD JR. HIGH SCHOOL AND DANDAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL”

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting sealed bids for the **Electrical Upgrade at Hopwood Jr. High School and Dandan Elementary School** on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The scope of work and project package is available beginning on May 17, 2010 at Pacific Quick Print for a fee of \$43.70.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Public School Procurement Rules and Regulations, as revised through June 5, 1998, and in accordance with ARRA Section 1605, “BUY AMERICAN REQUIREMENTS”. Bidding Procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 60-40-205 of the PSS Regulations, “Competitive Sealed Bidding”.

There will be a mandatory pre-bid conference on Friday, June 4, 2010, at 10:00 a.m., local time, at the Hopwood Jr. High School Library on Saipan. Bids will not be accepted from any bidder who failed to attend this pre-bid conference. Questions may be submitted in writing to Fax No. (670) 323-1075 or emailed to Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadia at lizb@emchen.com no later than June 8, 2010, 4:30 p.m.

All bids must be in a sealed envelope marked, IFB-10-056, and submitted with one (1) original and five (5) copies to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m., local time, June 11, 2010 at which time the bids will be publicly open in the PSS Conference Room, 3rd Floor, NMI Retirement Fund Building. Any bids submitted after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

This project is funded under the AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) with “Buy America” Provisions.

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian
Procurement Officer

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS PSS RFP 10-057

“EXTERNAL EVALUATOR FOR PSS T&FASEG PROGRAM”

The CNMI Public School System is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for an “External Evaluator for its T&FASEG Program”. The Scope of Work will be available beginning Monday, May 17, 2010 at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, CNMI.

Questions may be faxed to Jackie A. Quitugua, Associate Commissioner for Instructional Services at 664.3796 or e-mailed to jackiequitugua@gmail.com no later than Wednesday, May 26, 2010.

Proposals shall be in a sealed envelope marked “RFP 10-057” containing (1) Original and Three (3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office no later than 10:00 AM Friday, May 28, 2010. Any proposals submitted after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

This project is funded through a grant under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian
P&S Officer

Nation

BP confident latest try to capture oil will work

ROBERT, La. (AP)—BP was confident Saturday its latest experiment using a mile-long pipe would capture much of the oil flowing into the Gulf of Mexico, even as the company disclosed yet another setback in the environmental disaster.

Engineers hit a snag when they tried to connect two pieces of equipment a mile below the water's surface. BP PLC chief operating officer Doug Suttles said one piece of equipment, called the framework, had to be brought to the water's surface so that adjustments could be made to where it fits with the long tube that connects to a tanker above.

The framework holds a pipe and stopper, and engineers piloting submarine robots will try to use it to plug the massive leak and send the crude through the lengthy pipe to the surface.

"The frame shifted, so they were unable to make that connection," said Suttles, who believes the adjustments will make the device work.

At least 210,000 gallons of oil has been gushing into the Gulf of Mexico since an oil rig exploded April 20 and sank two days later. Eleven people were killed in the blast.

BP's latest idea seems to have the best chance for success so far, said Ed Overton, a LSU professor of environmental studies. At the surface this would be easy, Overton said, but using

robots in 5,000 feet of water with oil gushing out of the pipe makes things much more difficult.

"It's something like threading the eye of a needle. But that can be tough to do up here. And you can imagine how hard it would be to do it down there with a robot," Overton said.

The tube could capture more than three-quarters of the leak; BP also must contend with a smaller leak that's farther away. If the tube works, it would be the first time the company has been able to capture any of the oil before it fouls the Gulf waters.

A week ago, the company tried to put



AP
A Coast Guard plane flies over the Development Driller III oil drilling platform which is drilling a relief well at the site of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico off the coast of Louisiana Wednesday, May 12, 2010.

Palin joins Arizona gov. to defend immigration law

PHOENIX (AP)—As calls spread for an economic boycott of Arizona, the state's governor enlisted the help of former vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin on Saturday to defend a new law cracking down on illegal immigration.



Palin

conference on Saturday. The event launched a website that Brewer said was an effort to educate America about border security and discourage an economic boycott of the state.

The site, funded by Brewer's re-election campaign, shows pictures of Brewer and Palin and invites visitors to sign a petition opposing boycotts. It includes a list of politicians and organizations calling for the boycotts and asks visitors to call or e-mail to "let them know that you support Arizona."

"Our purpose today is to help the rest of the nation understand the crisis which confronts our state," Brewer said, citing the presence of human and drug smugglers.

The immigration law takes effect July 29 unless blocked by pending

court challenges. It requires police enforcing another law to ask a person about his or her immigration status if there's "reasonable suspicion" that the person is in the country illegally. Being in the country illegally would become a state crime.

"I think for most American people the reaction to this would be, 'Why haven't the police already been doing that?'" Palin said.

Obama and some city, state and foreign governments have condemned the law, which critics say will lead to racial profiling of Hispanics. Brewer on Saturday reiterated her assertion that profiling is illegal and will not be tolerated.

"The president apparently considers it a wonderful opportunity to divide people along racial lines for his personal political convenience," Brewer said.

fictitious post of "amnesty program director." They sent 2,700 letters to relatives of parolees-at-large advertising the reward and fake amnesty program.

Police: Sheriff's deputy in WA shoots in-laws

GIG HARBOR, Wash. (AP)—A sheriff's deputy accused of fatally shooting his wife's parents was found dead in his Gig Harbor, Wash., home early Saturday, after an hours-long standoff with police, authorities said. SWAT team members reported that 49-year-old Pierce County Deputy Allen Myron was dead when they entered the house more than six hours after the standoff began, Tacoma po-

lice Detective Gretchen Aguirre told The Associated Press. The SWAT team surrounding the house heard a single gunshot around 10 p.m. Friday, but did not enter the house at that time, Aguirre said. Myron's body was discovered shortly before 2 a.m. Saturday. Aguirre said she didn't know how Myron died.

Phoenix hospital nun rebuked for allowing abortion

PHOENIX (AP)—A nun and administrator at a Catholic hospital in Phoenix has been reassigned and rebuked by the local bishop for agreeing that a severely ill woman needed

Oil spill update

Forecasted location of the sunken rig oil spill:



a massive box over the leak, but ice-like crystals formed and BP scrapped that plan.

BP is also drilling a relief well that is considered the permanent solution to stopping the leak. It's about halfway done and still months away from being completed. The company also is

Episcopal church ordains its 2nd openly gay bishop

LONG BEACH, Calif. (AP)—Seven years after the Episcopal Church caused an uproar by consecrating its first openly gay bishop, it has done the same thing again—only this time with a woman.

The Rev. Canon Mary Glasspool, of Baltimore, was ordained and consecrated on Saturday, making her the second openly gay bishop in church history and one of the first two female bishops in the Diocese of Los Angeles' 114-year history.

She was installed at Long Beach Arena before 3,000 people, who burst into applause at the end, church spokesman Bob Williams said.

Just before the ceremony began, a man stood, shouted about the need to repent and held up a sign that read "Do not be deceived, homosexuals will not inherit the kingdom of God."

After he was escorted out, a young boy in the same section rose holding a Bible and shouted similar slogans. Security guards also led him out.

The Rev. Canon Diane M. Jardine Bruce, of San Clemente, Calif., was

still considering using a smaller containment dome known as a "top hat," as well as a "junk shot," in which golf balls and rubber would be inserted to try to clog the leak.

Meanwhile, BP began spraying underwater dispersants at that leak site and said the chemicals appear to have reduced the amount of surface oil.

This unprecedented use of chemical dispersants underwater, and the depth of the leak has created many unknowns regarding environmental impact, and researchers hurriedly worked to chart its effects.

Researchers from the National Institute for Undersea Science and Technology reported this week that they had detected large oil plumes from just beneath the surface of the sea to more than 4,000 feet deep.

Researchers Vernon Asper and Arne Dierks said in Web posts that the plumes were "perhaps due to the deep injection of dispersants which BP has stated that they are conducting."

Three or four large plumes have been found, at least one that is 10 miles long and a mile wide, said Samantha Joye, a marine science professor supporting the mission from her University of Georgia lab.

Episcopal church ordains its 2nd openly gay bishop

also ordained Saturday.

The two women were elected last December to serve as assistant bishops in the diocese's six-county territory but conservative Episcopalians had urged the church not to ordain Glasspool. The decision to do so highlights a continued Episcopal commitment to accepting same-sex relationships despite enormous pressure from other Anglicans.

Bishop Jon Bruno, who gave a sermon at the ceremony, said he once opposed ordaining women, but now would be happily serving alongside two. Bruno defended the church's inclusive policies.

"The world's transformed only if we turn to each and every one of our brothers and sisters and see the face of Christ superimposed on them," he told the audience. "The ones we disagree with most are the ones we're obligated to share our lives and teach the most."

The Episcopal Church, which is the Anglican body in the United States, caused turmoil in the church in 2003 by consecrating the first openly gay bishop, V. Gene Robinson of New Hampshire.

ACROSS THE NATION

Calif. agents use award ruse to reel in fugitives

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)—California corrections officials dangled an attractive offer Saturday before hundreds of parolees who have become fugitives: Turn yourself in, get a \$200 reward and qualify for an amnesty program. Authorities said 81 who showed up in Oakland were sorry they did. Instead of getting a check, they soon found themselves in handcuffs and, for most, headed back to state prison for violating their parole. Agents set up the elaborate ruse with its own website and e-mail account. They appointed an agent to the

lice Detective Gretchen Aguirre told The Associated Press. The SWAT team surrounding the house heard a single gunshot around 10 p.m. Friday, but did not enter the house at that time, Aguirre said. Myron's body was discovered shortly before 2 a.m. Saturday. Aguirre said she didn't know how Myron died.

Phoenix hospital nun rebuked for allowing abortion

PHOENIX (AP)—A nun and administrator at a Catholic hospital in Phoenix has been reassigned and rebuked by the local bishop for agreeing that a severely ill woman needed

NY agency: 600-plus cabbies repeatedly overcharged

NEW YORK (AP)—Hundreds of New York City cab drivers accused of repeatedly overcharging passengers will face a special tribunal. The city's Taxi and Limousine Commission on Friday issued the results of a monthlong probe into data revealing elevated meter-based charges over the past two years. The agency said 88 drivers each overcharged clients at least 500 times, while 545 more did so 50 to 499 times. Some could lose their licenses, while others with up to 49 overcharges face fines of as much as \$5,000.

Asia

Aquino: No oath before RP chief justice

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippines' president-apparent Benigno Aquino III refused Friday to take an oath of office before the new chief justice, alleging impropriety in the appointment by the outgoing president in the dying days of her term.

The move would be a symbolic first blow against the scandal-tainted President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo if Aquino takes office.

The son of Philippine democracy icons questioned Arroyo's appointment on Wednesday of Supreme Court Chief Justice Renato Corona, who was her chief of staff and spokesman. Aquino cited constitutional prohibitions on appointments two months before the end of a president's term, but a majority of Supreme Court judges ruled in March the two-month ban does not apply to the position of chief justice.

"I do not want my own oath-taking, if I do it, to be before a questioned entity," he told reporters in his northern home province of Tarlac.

He said instead he may be sworn in by a village chief in Tarlac on June 30 at the end of Arroyo's term.

Aquino has 41.85 percent of Monday's vote with results



Leading Presidential candidate Sen. Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino III, left, arrives for a news conference with running mate Mar Roxas at a funeral parlor in Tarlac city, Tarlac province in northern Philippines Friday May 14, 2010.

from 90 percent of precincts counted by Friday afternoon, a government-accredited election watchdog said. His closest rival, ousted President Joseph Estrada, had 26.47 percent.

Aquino appealed to Arroyo to reconsider her decision and

called on her "to recognize the new government's right to appoint the next chief justice." He warned other judges on the bench he would not recognize the move, adding they risked being ousted from the bench for supporting it.

Speaking on his weekly television program, Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva insisted that the military operation to quell protests was the answer in ending the country's two-month-long crisis.

"Overall, I insist the best way

to prevent losses is to stop the protest. The protest creates conditions for violence to occur. We do realize at the moment that the role of armed groups is increasing each day," he said.

He said a meeting was being held to discuss a possible curfew. Abhisit said he had asked the education minister to postpone the beginning of a new school semester, due to begin Monday, for a week.

ties announced a boycott.

Officials: US missiles kill 5 in NW Pakistan

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP)—A suspected U.S. missile strike killed at least five people in the Khyber tribal region of northwest Pakistan on Saturday, in what would be one of the first such attacks in the area, intelligence and government officials said. U.S. missiles have regularly pounding al-Qaida and Taliban targets along the Afghan border for two years now. The attacks have killed scores of people, most of them identified as militants by Pakistani officials. But they have caused anger in Pakistan, where many people see them as an unacceptable violation of the country's sovereignty. The suspected strike in the remote Teerah Valley of Khyber could fan fresh anger because it represented a widening of the covert program.

World

Bittersweet return for Dutch boy crash survivor

AMSTERDAM (AP)—The 9-year-old Dutch boy who miraculously survived a plane crash in Libya returned to the Netherlands aboard an airborne ambulance Saturday and was whisked away to a hospital in his hometown, where he must begin to rebuild his life without his parents or brother.

Ruben van Assouw was the sole survivor, pulled unconscious from the wreckage of an Afriqiyah Airways jetliner that plunged into the desert less than a mile from (a kilometer short of) the runway in Tripoli on Wednesday, killing 103 people.

Investigators from the U.S.

and other countries were on the scene of the crash near the Libyan capital Saturday trying to determine a cause. Others began identifying the dead, who include 70 Dutch nationals.

Ruben returned with an aunt and uncle aboard a flight to a military air base in Eindhoven, then was taken to St. Elizabeth Hospital in nearby Tilburg, the hometown of the Van Assouws.

Patrick, 40, Trudy, 41, and their son Enzo died in the crash.

Ruben underwent more than four hours of surgery to repair multiple fractures to his legs Wednesday, but doctors say he has been recovering well.

A statement by close

relatives said the extended family will care for Ruben, and asked the media not to contact them while they are grieving. Ruben was shielded from the media at the air base and hospital.

It was not yet clear where he will live, though much of the family, including grandparents, lives in Tilburg.

"Let's make sure he can catch his breath peacefully in the arms of relatives," Tilburg mayor Ivo Opstelten said on Dutch television. The boy and his relatives need to find "a kind of balance with each other, so they can start sketching a future."

Candidates threatened in local Mexico elections

MEXICO CITY (AP)—One candidate was gunned down with his son inside his business. Another is missing after assailants torched her home. In some towns near the U.S. border, parties can't find anyone to run for mayor.

The violence is intensifying fear that Mexico's drug cartels could control July 4 local elections in 10 states by supporting candidates who cooperate with organized crime and killing or intimidating those who don't.

Nowhere has the intimidation been worse than in the border state of Tamaulipas, where Mexican soldiers are trying to control an intensifying turf battle between the Gulf cartel and its former ally, the Zetas gang.

Gunmen burst into the farm supplies business of Jose Guajardo Varela Thursday and killed him and his son, after he ignored warnings to drop his bid for mayor of Valle Hermosa, a town about 30 miles (50 kilometers) south of Brownsville, Texas.

"Organized crime wants to have total control over local elections," said Carlos Alberto Perez, a federal lawmaker for Calderon's conservative National Action Party, known as the PAN.

On Saturday, authorities said former Mexican presidential candidate Diego Fernandez de Cevallos had disappeared, and his abandoned car was found near his ranch in the central state of Queretaro.

UK, Germany eye possible ash travel disruptions

LONDON (AP)—Volcanic ash from Iceland could disrupt air travel in both Britain and Germany in the next few days, officials said Saturday.

The British Department of Transport said there was a risk that parts of British airspace could be closed beginning Sunday and those problems could continue through Tuesday. The predictions are based on the continuing eruption of Iceland's Eyjafjallajokul volcano.

cano and current wind and weather conditions.

It said different parts of British airspace—including England's southeast, home to Europe's busiest airport at Heathrow as well as Gatwick, Stansted and other top airports—could close at different times through the next few days.

In Germany, air traffic control spokesman Axel Raab told The Associated Press that German air travel could face

possible disruptions starting Monday but cautioned that indicators were still "very, very vague."

Germany will send up a test flight Sunday to measure the ash concentration, German Aerospace Center spokesman Andreas Schuetz said—a measure welcomed by Lufthansa, Germany's largest airline, which last month criticized air traffic authorities for their lack of ash testing.

WORLD BRIEFS

Cathay Pacific plane from HK escorted to Vancouver

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP)—Canadian fighter jets escorted a Cathay Pacific airliner coming from Hong Kong to a safe landing in Vancouver International Airport on Saturday following a bomb threat, officials said. Royal Canadian Mounted Police said that passengers had been safely taken off the plane and that nothing of concern had been found in the baggage. "This is incident is being taken very seriously," Cpl. Sherridan Turley, adding the threat regarding Flight CX838 was called in to police at about 10:45 a.m. local time (1745 GMT).

\$2 billion sought to overhaul ruined Haiti schools

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)—The Inter-American Development Bank is seeking \$2 billion to expand access to Haitian schools. President Rene Preval and Bank President Luis Moreno announced the five-year program Saturday. It could be among the first presented for possible funding by the new Haitian Interim Reconstruction Commission co-chaired by Bill Clinton. The program aims to rebuild a system in shambles before nearly 4,000 schools were destroyed. Its advisers include Louisiana post-Katrina school superintendent Paul Vallas.

Chile judge frees Pakistani arrested at US Embassy

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP)—A Pakistani man detained with suspicious chemical residues at the U.S. Embassy in Chile was charged with possessing explosives on Saturday, and then set free pending further investigation. Mohammad Saif Ur Rehman Khan was ordered to stay in Chile and check in with authorities once a week. Prosecutors have three more months to develop their case, Judge Maria Carolina Herrera ruled. Defense attorney Gabriel Carrion said the judge declined to charge Khan with associating with terrorists for lack of evidence.

Thai PM considering curfew after 25 die in clashes

BANGKOK (AP)—Thailand's leader warned violence was on the rise after three days of rolling street battles in the heart of Bangkok and hinted Sunday that a curfew may be imposed on the sprawling metropolis of more than 10 million people.

Schools were also ordered shut Monday due to the violence that has killed 25 people since a military operation

ASIAN BRIEFS

NKorean navy boats violate sea border amid tension

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Two North Korean naval boats briefly crossed the tense western sea border with South Korea in the first such violation since a South Korean warship sank in the area following a mysterious explosion in March, the South's military said Sunday. A North Korean patrol boat sailed about 1.6 miles (2.8 kilometers) into the South-controlled waters on Saturday night but quickly retreated after a South Korean broadcast warning, according to Seoul's Joint Chiefs of Staff. In less than an hour, another North Korean patrol boat intruded across the border but returned to its waters after another warning broadcast and two shots from the South Korean vessel, a Joint Chiefs of Staff officer said on condition of anonymity citing department policy. There were no injuries reported, he added.

HK election aims to pressure Beijing for democracy

HONG KONG (AP)—Hong Kongers voted Sunday in territory-wide special elections triggered by five opposition legislators who resigned in the hopes of pressuring Beijing to implement full democracy in this former British colony. The five former lawmakers, who represent each of Hong Kong's five major electoral districts, quit in January with the intention of setting up a showdown against pro-Beijing candidates that will serve as a de facto referendum on democracy. While Hong Kong has continued to enjoy Western-style civil liberties under Chinese rule, its top leader is picked by a committee stacked with Beijing loyalists and its 60-member legislature is half-elected, half chosen by interest groups. Beijing has condemned the democracy activists' campaign and Hong Kong's leading pro-China political par-

Health & Fitness

More children's jewelry recalls in works

By JUSTIN PRITCHARD
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Federal regulators are expanding their investigation into children's jewelry that contains the toxic metal cadmium, promising that a recall announced Monday of "Best Friends" charm bracelets will not be the last.

"More recalls are in the works," U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission spokesman Scott Wolfson said.

Those recalls would be the result of voluntary testing by companies, some of which have found troubling levels of cadmium and then reported those results to the agency, Wolfson said. He would not say how many products are under scrutiny.

In addition, in recent weeks agency inspectors working at 10 of the nation's largest ports have screened imports of jewelry for cadmium. In one instance, a shipment of Chinese jewelry was turned away.

Word of expanded federal efforts came as the consumer safety agency announced the voluntary recall of about 19,000 "Best Friends" charm bracelet sets made in China and sold exclusively at the jewelry and accessories store Claire's, which has more than 3,000 outlets in North America and Europe.

"Cadmium is toxic if ingested by children and can cause adverse health effects," the agency said in its recall announcement. Medical research shows that cadmium in high levels is a known carcinogen and can harm kidneys and bones.

Agency scientists confirmed independent test results that were first reported in an Associated Press investigation in January, which showed high levels of cadmium in the "Best Friends" bracelet.

The recall pertains only to items previously sold at Claire's; several days after AP's initial investigation became public, the chain said it would immediately stop selling them.

While the CPSC did not release its results, testing done for the AP revealed that bracelets sold at Claire's contained up to 91 percent cadmium by weight, and shed alarming amounts during a test that examined how much cadmium children might be exposed to if they accidentally swallow one of the charms.

Consumers should take the



This undated photo provided by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission shows three sizes of "Best Friends" charm bracelets, which were sold by Claire's Boutiques.

bracelets away from children and return them to Claire's for a replacement or refund, according to the announcement. The bracelets sold for about \$12.

The CPSC identified the manufacturer as Dae Yeon Industries Corp., of China. Claire's said Monday that it has stopped further shipments from the company.

The recall was the third prompted by AP's reporting. Before this year, no consumer product in the United States had been recalled because of cadmium.

"Within weeks of these reports, Claire's Stores added procedures requiring all of its suppliers to test for cadmium in children's jewelry," the company said in a statement. "Claire's Stores has taken significant steps to ensure that its products meet or exceed all existing safety standards and has responded swiftly and decisively to address the potential risk of cadmium in children's jewelry."

The reference to existing safety standards reflects the fact that, unlike with lead, federal law sets no specific levels for how much cadmium is permissible in children's jewelry. Federal regulators are operating under generic powers they have to remove hazardous items from commerce, and Claire's urged the agency to set clearer standards.

In the meantime, states from California to Connecticut have started to act.

Last week in Illinois, for instance, the Legislature passed a bill to limit cadmium in children's jewelry that roughly follows a regulatory approach now used for cadmium in toys. That bill is on its way to the governor's desk.

Representatives of jewelry importers and manufacturers have rejected the idea that children's metal jewelry is unsafe.

Michael Gale, executive director of the Fashion Jewelry and Accessories Trade Association, has told several state legislatures that are considering strict limits on cadmium in jewelry that if those laws pass, it might be impossible to put any children's jewelry on stores shelves where those laws apply. In an interview Monday, he endorsed the approach that Illinois took.

At the nation's ports, federal product safety screeners are now using special guns that shoot X-rays into jewelry to estimate how much cadmium each item might contain. Samples of items with high initial results—dozens so far—have been sent to the CPSC's headquarters for detailed lab testing.

In one instance, a shipment of Chinese jewelry shed high levels of cadmium when put through the test that mimics how much would enter the body if accidentally swallowed, agency spokesman Wolfson said. That shipment was then "re-exported" - which under U.S. law doesn't mean it had to be sent back to China.

Life & Style



AP
Sixteen-year-old Jessica Watson works with the rigging as she sails past the finish line at the entrance to Sydney Harbour in Sydney, Australia, Saturday, May 15, 2010, capping off a nearly 23,000 nautical mile voyage that many thought she wouldn't survive.

Australian finishes round-the-world sail at age 16

SYDNEY (AP)—A 16-year-old Australian who braved boat knockdowns and seven months of solitude on a sail around the world set foot on dry land outside the Sydney Opera House on Saturday and quickly set an earthier goal: getting her driver's license.

Jessica Watson became the youngest person to sail around the globe solo, nonstop and unassisted when she cruised into Sydney Harbour in her pink, 34-foot (10-meter) yacht to a rock star welcome of thousands. She successfully maneuvered her boat through raging storms, 40-foot (12-meter) waves and seven knockdowns during the 23,000 nautical mile journey that critics thought she wouldn't survive.

After standing on land for the first time in 210 days, the teen said she's eager to learn how to drive a car, to eat fresh fruit and salad after months of packaged meals, get a full night's sleep instead of catnaps and shake off her sea legs with a long walk on the beach.

"You will pass your driving test with flying colors," Prime Minister Kevin Rudd assured Watson, who giggled along with a crowd of thousands of her fans, many wearing pink or waving pink flags in honor of her yacht, Ella's Pink Lady.

It was a lighthearted moment in an emotional day for the teen, who admitted she was overwhelmed by the attention after so much solitude. Minutes earlier, she had wept with relief after stepping off

the yacht and into the arms of her tearful parents, whose decision to let their daughter attempt the feat was dubbed an act of insanity by some.

"People don't think you're capable of these things—they don't realize what young people, what 16-year-olds and girls are capable of," Watson told the crowd. "It's amazing when you take away those expectations what you can do."

Watson, from Buderim, north of Brisbane in Queensland state, sailed out of Sydney on Oct. 18 despite protests by critics that she was too immature and inexperienced for the treacherous journey. Her parents maintained that she was well-prepared and noted she has been sailing since age 8.

"She said she'd sail around the world, and she has," a tearful Julie Watson said from a nearby boat as she watched her grinning daughter cruise past the finish line. "She's home."

Watson sailed northeast through the South Pacific and across the equator, south to Cape Horn at the tip of South America, across the Atlantic Ocean to South Africa, through the Indian Ocean and around southern Australia.

Her feat will not be considered an official world record, because the World Speed Sailing Record Council discontinued its "youngest" category.

Australian Jesse Martin holds the record for the youngest person to sail around the world solo, nonstop and unassisted, after he completed the journey in 1999 at the age of 18.

Martin boarded Watson's boat to take over during her cruise toward the Opera House, so she could relax and wave

to fans. Watson was given a goodie bag that included Tim Tams—chocolate cookies popular in Australia—and a can of whipped cream, which she partially injected into her mouth before laughing and turning away from the cameras.

She was also joined on board by Britain's Mike Perham, who completed a solo circumnavigation at the age of 17 in 2009, though technical problems forced him to stop for assistance.

Some sailing enthusiasts also argue Watson didn't travel far enough north of the equator for her journey to count as a true round-the-world sail as defined by the record council's rules. Watson's managers have dismissed those claims and argued she doesn't need to adhere to the council's rules anyway, since they won't be recognizing her voyage.

The route took Watson through some of the world's most treacherous waters, and the teen battled through monstrous storms. She said those times gave her moments of doubt, but generally she kept her spirits up.

"Amazingly, I just enjoyed it much, much more than I ever thought I would and handled the challenges better than I thought," she told journalists. "You don't actually have a choice—you're in the middle of a storm, you're being knocked down—you can't fall apart."

Her journey was also peppered with beauty. On her blog, she described stunning sunrises over glassy seas, the excitement of spotting a blue whale and the dazzling, eerie sight of a shooting star racing across the night sky above her boat.

Case closed: 'Law & Order' is canceled by NBC

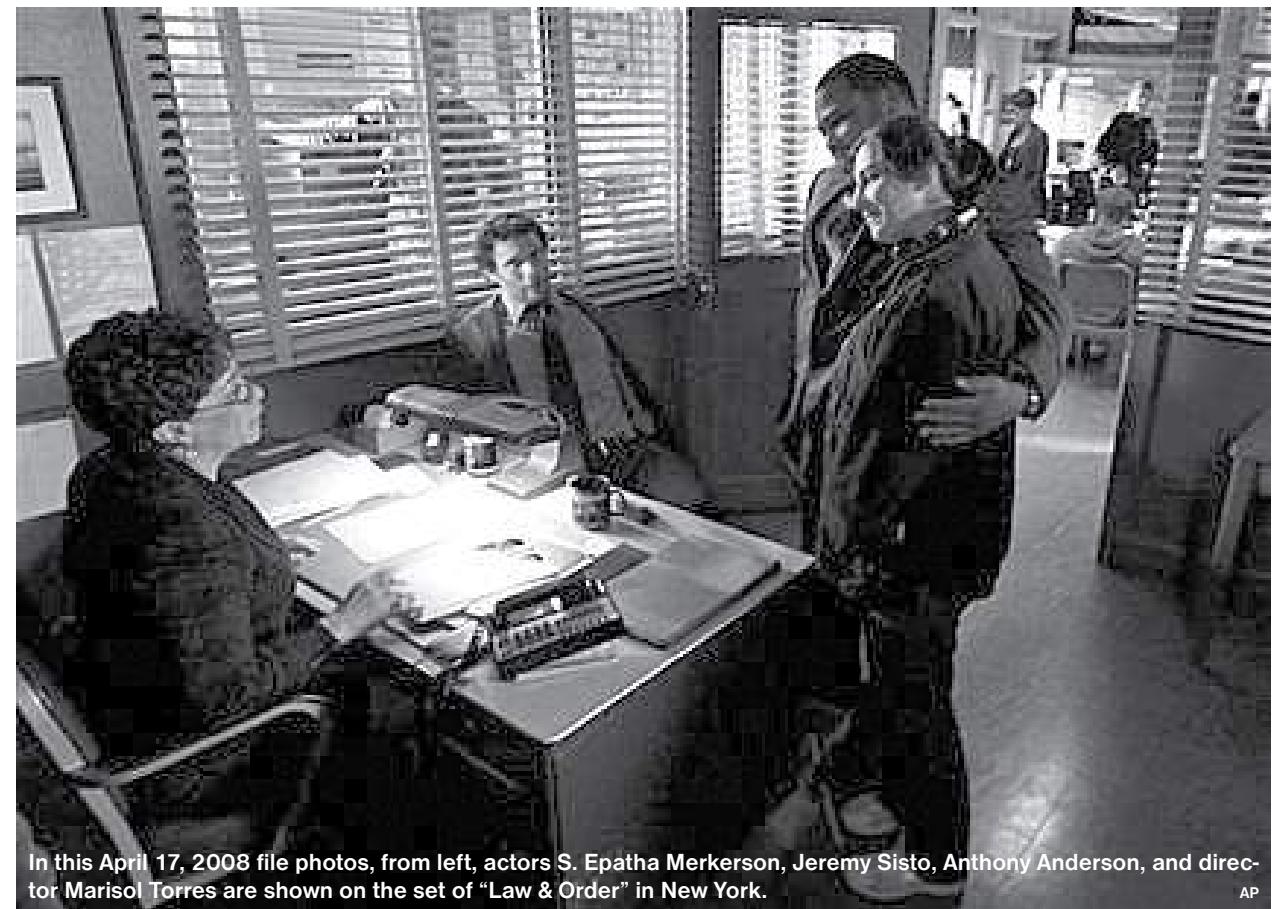
NEW YORK (AP)—There was never any doubt that, someday, "Law & Order" would come to an end.

But the death sentence handed down by NBC on Friday caught many observers by surprise. Viewers weren't prepared to say farewell to this beloved TV warhorse. Not this way, with this sort of abruptness. And not with it on

the brink of entering the history book as TV's longest-running drama.

What had been intended as the 20th-season finale, a solid but unexceptional episode, will air May 24 as the series conclusion. This would seem an injustice to the show's proud legacy. And an unceremonious end for its fans.

Maybe there weren't enough fans



In this April 17, 2008 file photo, from left, actors S. Epatha Merkerson, Jeremy Sisto, Anthony Anderson, and director Marisol Torres are shown on the set of "Law & Order" in New York. AP

Michael Jackson doctor helps passenger in distress

PHOENIX (AP)—The doctor accused of administering a powerful anesthetic that killed pop star Michael Jackson helped stabilize a young woman who fell unconscious on a US Airways jet on Saturday.

Dr. Conrad Murray found the woman with a very weak pulse aboard Flight 641 from Houston, hooked her up to an IV line he got from the plane's medical bag and monitored her while the jet was diverted to Albuquerque, N.M., his spokeswoman said.

"We're not surprised," said Miranda Sevcik, from the legal team representing Murray in his involuntary manslaughter case. "He's a good doctor, we've always said he was a good doctor, and that's what good doctors do is save people."

The young woman, who Murray said was 23 and traveling with an 11-month-old baby, was met at the gate by paramedics and taken to a hospital, Sevcik said. The plane then continued on to Phoenix. Murray was on his way to Los Angeles to confer with his lawyers at the time.

US Airways confirmed that a doctor on the flight helped stabilize a pa-



In this April 5, 2010 file photo, Dr. Conrad Murray, accused of involuntary manslaughter in the death of Michael Jackson appears at a procedural hearing at the Los Angeles Superior Court in downtown Los Angeles. AP

He has pleaded not guilty, and remains free on \$75,000 bail pending trial.

The cardiologist has offices in Houston and Las Vegas. His license to practice medicine in California has been restricted by a judge and he is fighting to maintain his license in Las Vegas, where back child support could result in its suspension.

Jackson, 50, was about to launch a world comeback tour when he died last June after being found unresponsive with Murray at his bedside in a Beverly Hills mansion. Murray had been hired at \$150,000 a month to be Jackson's personal physician.

Murray told police he administered the anesthetic propofol to Jackson as a treatment for insomnia.

Conrad, 57, was charged in February with a felony charge of involuntary manslaughter.

He has pleaded not guilty, and remains free on \$75,000 bail pending trial.

The cardiologist has offices in Houston and Las Vegas. His license to practice medicine in California has been restricted by a judge and he is fighting to maintain his license in Las Vegas, where back child support could result in its suspension.

(this season, viewership has averaged 7.3 million viewers, the show's lowest ever and less than half the number at its height a decade ago). Maybe the show was too expensive to produce. Maybe NBC just thought it was too old.

Even so, "Law & Order" had been considered a TV fixture and a good shot for renewal next season. Then it would be poised to surpass "Gunsmoke," a CBS western that ran 20 seasons from 1955 to 1975.

That record-breaking feat has been an enduring dream of the series' creator, Dick Wolf, who not only furnished NBC with this so-called "mother ship" but expanded it into two successful "Law & Order" spinoffs. He also will shepherd the just-announced "LOLA" (short for "Law & Order: Los Angeles") premiering this fall.

Jeff Gaspin, chairman of NBC Universal Television, praised Wolf on Friday and said the legacy of "Law & Order" will "continue to make an impact

like no other series before."

Wolf declined comment, other than to say in a statement, "Never complain, never explain."

In its latest incarnation, the show's ensemble cast consisted of Jeremy Sisto, Anthony Anderson, Linus Roache, Alana De La Garza, Sam Waterston (who joined in 1994) and S. Epatha Merkerson, who, unrelated to the show's termination, had already announced she was moving on after 16 seasons.

"Oh, it'll be renewed, it'll definitely be renewed," Merkerson said earlier this week, sounding confident the show would continue even after she was gone.

These actors have followed in the footsteps of no fewer than 19 other stars who have filled the show's half-dozen slots for cops and prosecutors since "Law & Order" began.

The series premiered on Sept. 13, 1990. It was thought to be unusually

raw and authentic in how each episode followed the twists and turns of a case, which often dealt with pressing social issues seldom addressed by TV drama.

It had an unusual structure, too. For the first half-hour, detectives tracked down the bad guy. In the second half, prosecutors hauled the accused into court.

The stories were said to be ripped from the headlines, with New York City the show's true star. Largely shot on the streets of New York, it had a striking look at a time when only one other scripted series, "The Cosby Show," originated from New York.

"Over the last 20 years, 'Law & Order' became a New York City institution," said New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg in a statement on Friday. Noting that "it began filming in the city at a time when few series did," he thanked Wolf for "helping showcase the city's depth and versatility as a setting."

LA DA meets actress who claims Polanski sex abuse

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Los Angeles County prosecutors have met with a British actress who claims she was sexually abused by director Roman Polanski in his Paris apartment when she was 16—years before she appeared in one of his movies.

Charlotte Lewis, 42, said Friday that the filmmaker abused her "in the worst possible way" sometime in the 1980s.

Lewis provided no evidence to support her claims, and her attorney, Gloria Allred, did not permit her to answer questions during a news conference in her office.

However, Allred said the woman provided evidence to a police detective and officials from the Los Angeles County district attorney's office. She refused to provide specifics and also refused to answer questions about whether her client's allegations involved drugs or rape.

"Our detectives did conduct the interview but the department has not begun an investigation," said police spokesman Richard French. He did not know

when the interview was conducted.

It was unclear what year the alleged assault took place.

"He took advantage of me and I have lived with the effects of his behavior ever since it occurred," said Lewis, reading from a prepared statement at a news conference in her lawyer's office. "All I want is justice."

Allred said that, to her knowledge, no criminal complaint or lawsuit was made in France over the alleged assault.

The duty officer for the French Justice Ministry said late Friday night that he was not aware whether the British actress had filed a complaint in France about her allegation.

A statement released by Polanski's U.S. legal team said his attorneys had no information about the allegations that were made at the press conference "but we do know that our district attorney continues to refuse to provide the Swiss government with accurate and complete information relevant to the extradition issue."



British actress Charlotte Lewis and her attorney Gloria Allred, rear left, are shown during a news conference in Los Angeles Friday, May 14, 2010. AP

Polanski, the Oscar-winning director of "Rosemary's Baby," "Chinatown" and "The Pianist," is under house arrest at his Swiss chateau in connection with a 33-year-old case.

Polanski was accused of drugging a 13-year-old girl with champagne and part of Quaalude and raping her at Jack Nicholson's house in Los Angeles in 1977. He pleaded guilty

to unlawful sexual intercourse but fled to France before sentencing and remained a fugitive until Swiss authorities arrested him on Sept. 26 on a U.S. warrant as he arrived in Zurich to receive a lifetime achievement award from a film festival.

Lewis said she came forward because she heard that Polanski was fighting extradition to the United States and "that his legal team is portraying his previous offense against a minor as an isolated instance."

Allred said she doesn't plan any legal action right now, such as a lawsuit, but believes the allegations would be relevant when Polanski is sentenced.

Her client is ready to testify if necessary, she said.

"If the judge believes these claims, it could certainly have an impact on the court's decision," she said.

Lewis played a role in Polanski's 1986 movie, "Pirates." She's also credited with a role in the 1986 movie "The Golden Child" and small roles in other movies and TV shows.

Woody Allen shares tales of love, death at Cannes

CANNES, France (AP)—Love, death, the terrible pitfalls of aging, romance between older men and younger women—they're all part of the Woody Allen canon, whether in his films or when he's just shooting the breeze.

Allen's latest mix of comedy and drama, "You Will Meet a Tall Dark Stranger," premiered Saturday at the Cannes Film Festival, presenting an ensemble of characters dealing with familiar issues at the heart of the filmmaker's 40-some movies.

In a news conference, Allen

addressed many of these issues, along with such matters as why he shoots films in London rather than near his home in Manhattan and why he has not costarred in his recent pictures.

■ On aging: "I find it a lousy deal. There's no advantage in getting older. I'm 74 now. You don't get smarter, you don't get wiser, you don't get more melodic, you don't get more kindly."

Nothing good happens. Your back hurts more. You get more indigestion. Your eyesight isn't as good. You need a hearing aid. It's a bad business getting older, and I would advise you not to do it."

■ On May-December romances: "It's a good laugh-getter, and a good provocative kind of thing, so that's really why I use it. ... It gives me something that you can get good situations from and good jokes from."

■ On London: "The films that I make in London I could make in New York. They would just be more expensive to make in New York. It's a pleasure to work in London, because the summers are cool, the skies are gray, good for photography. There are wonderful crews and wonderful actors."

■ On not appearing in his films: "For years, I played the romantic lead, and then I couldn't play it any longer, because I got too old to play it, and

it's no fun just not playing the guy who gets the girl. So unless I can think of some way to do it, no. ... You can imagine how frustrating it is when I do these movies with Scarlett Johansson and Naomi Watts, and the other guys get them. And I'm the director. I'm the, you know, that old guy over there is the director. I don't like that. I like being the one that sits across from them in the restaurant and looks in their eyes and lies to them."

■ On death: "My relationship with death remains the same. I am very strongly against it."

"You Will Meet a Tall Dark Stranger," Allen's 10th film at Cannes, spins a convoluted tale of troubled lives as Alfie (Hopkins) becomes obsessed with aging and leaves his wife, Helena (Jones), eventually marrying a young, gold-digging actress-prostitute (Lucy Punch).

Alfie and Helena's daughter, Sally (Watts), supports husband Roy (Brolin) while he struggles

to finish a novel that might fulfill the promise of his first published book. Meantime, Roy falls for a beautiful neighbor (Pinto), while Sally develops feelings for her boss (Banderas) at an art gallery. Helena finds comfort from a quarter in which Allen himself places no faith—the prognostications of a fortuneteller. Everyone needs their own little fictions to cope with the harshness of life, he said.

"I do feel that it's a grim, pitiful, nightmarish, meaningless experience," Allen said. "The only way that you can be happy is if you tell yourself some lies and deceive yourself, and I'm not the first person to say this or the most articulate person on it. It was said by Nietzsche, it was said by Freud, it was said by Eugene O'Neill. One must have one's delusions to live. You look at life too honestly and clearly, life does become unbearable, because it's a pretty grim enterprise, you must admit."



Filmmaker Woody Allen attends a press conference for the film "You Will Meet a Tall Dark Stranger", at the 63rd international film festival, in Cannes, southern France, Saturday, May 15, 2010.

Winnie Mandela biopic producer vows to plow ahead

CANNES, France (AP)—Jennifer Hudson's film biography of Winnie Madikizela-Mandela is about to start production, despite threats of legal action by the ex-wife of former South African President Nelson Mandela, the film's producer said Saturday.

Speaking at a news conference at the Cannes Film Festival, Andre Pieterse said he received a letter from lawyers for Madikizela-Mandela that "contained the threat of an interdict that could stop production" of "Winnie."

The letter said that "she would like to see the script and approve," but Pieterse said he and director Darrell Roodt had decided against that. "The film will be made based on a screenplay that was well researched and without any interference, without any influence from any of the main characters."

Production on "Winnie" is slated to begin in South Africa on May 31 and last 10 weeks. No release date has yet been set for the film, which stars another U.S. actor, Terrence Howard, as Nelson Mandela.

Madikizela-Mandela rose to prominence during South Africa's apartheid era, when she led the African National Congress and vigorously campaigned for the release of her husband, who spent 27 years in jail. Their marriage fell apart a few years after his



Actors Terrence Howard and Jennifer Hudson pose for a photo call for "Winnie", at the 63rd international film festival, in Cannes, southern France, Saturday, May 15, 2010.

1990 release.

In 1991, Madikizela-Mandela was sentenced to six years in jail for her role in a kidnapping case. The sentence was reduced to a fine on appeal, but she was later convicted of fraud and theft charges.

Roodt—the South African behind "Cry, the Beloved Country" and "Sarafina!"—sought to downplay the unsavory elements of Madikizela-Mandela's biography, repeatedly calling the Mandelas' relationship "an amazing love story about what one woman will do for her man."

The movie spans most of Madikizela-Mandela's life, following her from her early teens through the present, Roodt said.

"It's not a rose-tinted picture by any stretch of the imagina-

tion. However, we contextualize that so you understand where that comes from."

"This is a woman who is just extraordinary beyond all measure and it's high time that a great film is made about a great South African and a great human being who's done so much for not only South Africa but the world," he said. "I shouldn't say this, but I think Winnie's going to love the movie."

Academy Award-winning U.S. actress Hudson said she didn't know much about Madikizela-Mandela before accepting the role, but added she's been reading up on South Africa and on the Mandelas.

"I'm still in the process of learning," she said. "It's not small shoes to fill, it's a big deal. And it's something that I'm extremely excited about."

NEW YORK (AP)—Lena Horne, whose signature song was "Stormy Weather," was remembered at her funeral on Friday as a shy girl from Brooklyn who fought racism for decades to emerge as a world-class singer and social activist.

"She was so many ideas existing all at the same time in the same space and they were all conflicting and they were all true," her granddaughter, Jenny Lumet, told hundreds of mourners at the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola in Manhattan.

They included fellow entertainers Chita Rivera, Diahann Carroll, Dionne Warwick, Cicely Tyson and Jinji Nicole.

"I've tried to sum her up and I can't sum her up," said Lumet, daughter of director Sidney Lumet. "To sum something up means it's over—and I think that she's not over and that she's quite infinite."

Horne, who died Sunday at 92, was one of the first black performers hired to sing with Charlie Barnet's white orchestra in the early 1940s, playing the Copacabana nightclub in New York City. When she signed with MGM, she was one of the rare black actors to have a contract with a major Hollywood studio.

In 1943, MGM lent Horne to 20th Century Fox to play the lead role in the all-black movie musical "Stormy Weather."

Her rendition of the title song became a major hit—reflecting the ups and downs of her life, which included a second marriage to Lennie Hayton, a Jewish musician working for MGM with whom she shared the social pressures of being an interracial couple.

For years, Horne entertained white audiences with her impressive musical range, from blues and jazz to such



Pallbearers depart with the casket of entertainer and civil rights activist Lena Horne, from the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola in New York, Friday, May 14, 2010.

Rodgers and Hart songs as "The Lady Is a Tramp" and "Bewitched, Bothered and Bewildered." But she was often not allowed to socialize with whites, especially in the segregated South.

"I was unique in that I was a kind of black that white people could accept," she once told an interviewer. "I was their daydream. I had the worst kind of acceptance because it was never for how great I was or what I contributed."

Horne plunged into activism after 1945, when she performed at an Army base and saw German prisoners of war sitting in front while black American soldiers were consigned to the rear.

Aging members of the so-called Tuskegee Airmen, a group of black World War II pilots, attended the funeral.

Among them was Roscoe Brown Jr., who commanded an Air Force squadron and now directs the Center for Urban Education Policy at the City University of New York.

"This wonderful, beautiful lady, Lena Horne, came to visit us," he told mourners. "She

sang, she talked with us and she made us all her boyfriends."

The men took her picture "and put it on our barracks, on our planes, and she became our pinup girl," he said.

During the two-hour funeral, former New York City Mayor David Dinkins and U.S. Rep. John Lewis, D-Georgia, also delivered eulogies for a woman who was blacklisted in the 1950s for her activism and unable to perform.

But she emerged a major cultural figure, capped by her 1981 one-woman Broadway show, "Lena Horne: The Lady and Her Music," which won a special Tony for the fierce passion of her truths in music.

In Washington on Friday, U.S. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, D-N.Y., paid tribute to Horne by introducing a bipartisan Senate resolution that passed unanimously, recognizing the Brooklyn native's legacy as a Hollywood trailblazer and civil rights activist.

Horne's funeral was held in the Upper East Side church where she brought her family each Easter for years.

Bret Michaels announces May 28 return to stage

NEW YORK (AP)—Bret Michaels is set to return to the stage a little more than a month after suffering a brain hemorrhage.

His representative announced Friday that the rocker and reality star would perform at the Hard Rock Live in Biloxi, Miss., on May 28.

Michaels has been sidelined since April. On April 12, he had an emergency appendectomy. Ten days later he suffered the hemorrhage that left him in intensive care for two weeks in a Phoenix hospital.

Many of his concert dates were postponed, but they are being rescheduled. Michaels also is set to begin a tour with Lynyrd Skynyrd on June 10 in West Palm Beach, Fla.

Michaels—who has been in rehabilitation since the hemorrhage—is hoping to return to New York to compete on NBC's "Celebrity Apprentice." He will appear on "The Oprah Winfrey Show" on Wednesday.



In this April 9, 2008 file photo, Poison lead singer Bret Michaels poses for a portrait in the Hollywood area of Los Angeles.

Baby girl for model Claudia Schiffer

LONDON (AP)—German supermodel Claudia Schiffer and her husband, British film producer and director Matthew Vaughn, have welcomed their third child—a baby girl.

A statement released Saturday by the couple announced the birth of their daughter but did not say what they intended to name her.

The baby was born in a central London hospital Friday afternoon. The statement says the 39-year-old model and the baby "are doing well."

Schiffer and Vaughn married in 2002. They already have a 7-year-old son, Caspar, and 5-year-old daughter, Clementine.

A heavily pregnant Schiffer was recently featured on the cover of German Vogue.



In this Oct. 6, 2009 file photo, Claudia Schiffer poses before the presentation of Chanel's spring summer 2010 ready-to-wear fashion collection by German fashion designer Karl Lagerfeld in Paris.

Police: TV chef cooked up murder-for-hire plot

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP)—A former television chef and Food Network host is under arrest in an alleged murder-for-hire plot involving homeless people, Santa Monica police said.

Juan-Carlos Cruz, one-time host of "Calorie Commando," was arrested Thursday and booked on suspicion of solicitation to commit murder, Sgt. Jay Trisler said. He's scheduled to be arraigned on Monday.

Homeless people told the city's homeless liaison officers that Cruz asked them to kill someone, Trisler said. They agreed to help police investigate the alleged murder-for-hire plot.

"They felt confident that they could divulge this information and be treated fairly and be listened to," he said.

Detectives discovered where, when and how the targeted individual was to be killed and how much money Cruz allegedly offered, Trisler said.

Police notified the intended victim, who was not identified publicly because of the ongoing investigation, he said.



In this undated photo provided by the Santa Monica Police Department, Juan-Carlos Cruz is shown.

Cruz, 48, is being held on \$5 million bail. Trisler said his bail was raised because of information discovered during the investigation.

He did not know if Cruz had hired an attorney. Attempts to reach Cruz were not successful.

He was the pastry chef at Hotel Bel Air in Los Angeles, made custom wedding cakes and spoke about low-calorie cooking at health fairs, according to the biography on his book, "The Juan-Carlos Cruz Calorie Countdown Cookbook."

Chicago suburbs honor their own 'American Idol'

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, Ill. (AP)—A parade with cheerleaders and a high school marching band helped welcome "American Idol" finalist Lee Dewyze back to his suburban Chicago hometown Friday. He later sang to tens of thousands of people at a nearby concert.

At least 30,000 tickets were given away for the concert at Arlington Park Racetrack. Fans throughout the crowd were clad in neon yellow "Vote 4 Lee" T-shirts.

Dwyze, at times emotional, appeared overwhelmed by the outpouring at the show. The 24-year-old paint store clerk thanked fans for supporting his appearance on the Fox talent competition.

"This is the best day of my life," he told the crowd, who heard him perform renditions of "Hey Jude," "The Boxer" and the Dave Matthews Band song "Crash."

On stage, Dewyze received the key to the city of Mount Prospect, his hometown.

Mount Prospect Mayor Irvana Wilks said earlier that when she first saw him perform on "American Idol," she thought, "Oh my gosh, we need to get ready."

The town was ready Friday with a parade that drew hundreds of cheering fans. Dewyze waved to the crowds from the back of a black convertible.

"That raspy voice just sends chills up your spine," said Margie Torphy, 52, a Mount Prospect resident along the route who said she used to buy paint from him.

Twelve-year-old Olivia Karnes of Mount Prospect showed up at the parade with her family.

"He has an amazing voice. It's really unique," Olivia said. "And he's cute."

Earlier Friday, Dewyze threw out the first pitch at Wrigley Field in Chicago before the Cubs played the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Dwyze is one of three contestants remaining on the Fox competition. The other two finalists—Crystal Bowersox of Toledo, Ohio, and Casey James of Cool, Texas—were also touring their hometowns.

Footage from the visits is scheduled to air on next week's show.



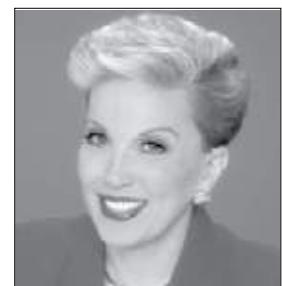
American Idol finalist Lee Dewyze is overwhelmed by the cheers of fans during a hometown parade in his honor Friday, May 14, 2010 in Mount Prospect, Ill.

College-bound couple ready to give long-distance a try

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I am an 18-year-old high school senior who will be leaving for college soon. My boyfriend, also a senior, will be leaving, too. We have been going out for the past two years and trust each other completely. We attended different schools, so we are both fairly adapted to a "long-distance relationship."

The problem is I will be going to college in Florida while he will be staying in Michigan. Neither of us wants to break up, but we understand the enormous changes that will be taking place soon. I don't want to force any unnecessary stress upon him, and I know he feels the same. What are the chances of a long-distance relationship like this working out? Do you have any tips for maintaining it?



Dear Abby

COLLEGE-BOUND

DEAR COLLEGE-BOUND: You are right that significant changes will take place after you and your boyfriend leave for college. You will both grow in different directions, which is a good thing and is to be expected. It will either enrich your relationship or end it. But if you have a strong friendship, are honest with each other and aren't afraid of letting each other enjoy some freedom, your chances are stronger of having a relationship that is long-lasting. It may seem counterintuitive, but it's true.

DEAR ABBY: In the past your column has been supportive of Overeaters Anonymous, a 12-step program for those suffering from compulsive eating. This year is the 50th birthday of OA. We want to remind people that they are not alone.

I have been a grateful recovery member of OA for eight years. Food is no longer my reason for living. I have been transformed by the program, both externally and internally. I want people to know there is help. Just as all heavy drinkers are not necessarily alcoholics, neither are all overeaters food addicts. But for those who are—and there are thousands—OA is the answer.

JANET IN TUCSON

DEAR JANET: My warmest congratulations to you, your fellow OA members and to Overeaters Anonymous on its golden anniversary year. When my mother first mentioned Overeaters Anonymous in this column in 1973, I am told the organization was inundated with 40,000 letters from readers wanting to know more or to start chapters. Today OA has grown to more than 6,500 chapters located in more than 75 countries. There is no shaming, no weighing, and no dues or fees are charged at the meetings. Chapters are located in almost every city, but if there's a problem in finding one, log onto www.oa.org or send a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to OA World Service Office, P.O. Box 44020, Rio Rancho, N.M. 87174-4020.

DEAR ABBY: What do you think of friends like the "Joneses," who tell us about all the different people they have had over for dinner and what was served, but have never invited us to share a meal even though we have had them to our house for dinner on more than one occasion?

STIFFED IN NEW JERSEY

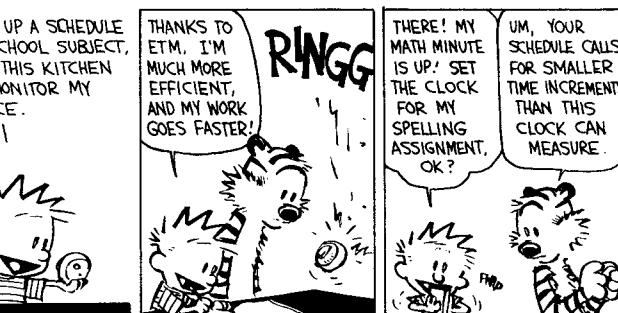
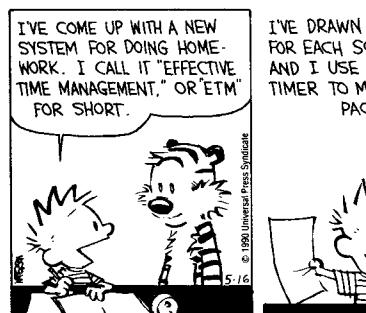
DEAR STIFFED: The people you have described are not acting like "friends." What they're doing shows extreme disregard for your feelings. When someone accepts an invitation to dinner in your home, anyone with good manners expects to reciprocate the hospitality in some way. If I were you, I would distance myself from the "Joneses." You'll have less hurt feelings and frustration if you do.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby—Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



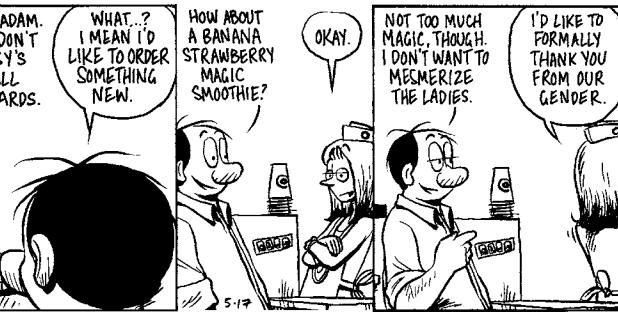
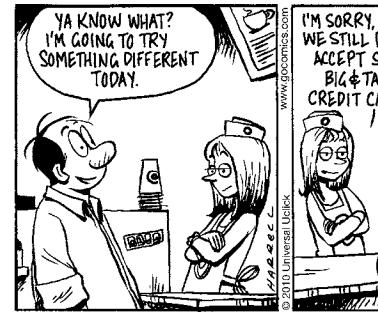
By Bill Waterson

Garfield®



By Jim Davis

Adam@home



By Bryan Basset

The Duplex



By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	35	Eyelid	58	Postpone	20	Historic	times	59	Whammy	21	Tropical	tree	DOWN	
1	Civil War	woe	59	Whammy	20	Historic	times	59	Whammy	21	Tropical	tree	1 —	
4	Nev.	36	TV, radio,	22	Reed	20	Historic	times	21	Resident	21	Tropical	tree	
9	neighbor	etc.	40	A	23	Instrument	times	21	Resident	22	Resident	22	1 —	
12	Cry	38	Fresh	24	Actress	of	times	22	Resident	25	Resident	25	1 —	
13	loudly	40	A	25	Longoria	Cagliari	times	23	Resident	26	Resident	26	1 —	
14	Eggs	41	Poetic	26	Parker	27	Moving	23	Resident	27	Resident	27	1 —	
15	Very	43	foot	27	Listener	28	Burning	24	Resident	29	Resident	29	1 —	
16	over-	45	Annul	28	4 Picnickers'	29	heap	25	Resident	30	Resident	30	1 —	
17	weight	46	Roman	29	ers' drink	30	Close up	26	Resident	31	Resident	31	1 —	
18	Atmo-	47	magis-	30	holder	32	tightly	27	Resident	32	Resident	32	1 —	
19	sphere	48	ter	31	5 Scrapes	33	"Buenos	28	Resident	33	Resident	33	1 —	
20	tailored	49	counter	32	6 Hawaiian	34	—"	29	Resident	34	Resident	34	1 —	
21	clothing	50	Clay, now	33	7 Stern or	35	Die	30	Resident	35	Resident	35	1 —	
22	Genetic	51	See-	34	8 Newton	36	37	31	Resident	36	Resident	36	1 —	
23	matter	52	through	35	9 Chap	37	Enter-	32	Resident	37	Resident	37	1 —	
24	(Abbr.)	53	food	36	10 Snide	38	tained	33	Resident	38	Resident	38	1 —	
25	— carte	54	protector	37	11 Pig's	39	"Parsifal"	34	Resident	39	Resident	39	1 —	
26	Smart	55	comment	38	12 Obliterate	40	composer	35	Resident	40	Resident	40	1 —	
27	people?	56	past	39	13 Support	41	Trumpet	36	Resident	41	Resident	41	1 —	
28	people?	57	14	14	group?	42	noise	37	Resident	42	Resident	42	1 —	
29	Put in the	58	15	15	16 Tit for —	43	Present	38	Resident	43	Resident	43	1 —	
30	mail	59	16	16	17	44	45 Bear	39	Resident	44	Resident	44	1 —	
31	Dag-	60	17	17	18	45	lair	40	Resident	45	Resident	45	1 —	
32	wood's	61	18	18	19	46	Hodge-	41	Resident	46	Resident	46	1 —	
33	boss' wife	62	19	19	20	47	podge	42	Resident	47	Resident	47	1 —	
34	Lawyers'	63	20	20	21	48	50 U.K. mil.	43	Resident	48	Resident	48	1 —	
35	org.	64	21	21	22	49	org.	44	Resident	49	Resident	49	1 —	
36	Gun the	65	22	22	23	50	"Go,	51	Resident	50	Resident	50	1 —	
37	engine	66	23	23	24	51	team!"	52	Resident	51	Resident	51	1 —	
38	Nasty	67	24	24	25	53	52 Census	53	Resident	52	Resident	52	1 —	
39	stingers	68	25	25	26	54	statistic	55	Resident	54	Resident	54	1 —	
40	Parlia-	69	26	26	27	56	53 Chicken	56	Resident	56	Resident	56	1 —	
41	mentar-	70	27	27	28	57		58	Resident	57	Resident	57	1 —	
42	ian's title	71	28	28	29	59		59	Resident	58	Resident	58	1 —	
43	Despon-	72	29	29	30	60		61	Resident	60	Resident	60	1 —	
44	dent	73	30	30	31	62		63	Resident	62	Resident	62	1 —	
45	46	74	31	31	32	64		65	Resident	64	Resident	64	1 —	
46	47	75	32	32	33	66		67	Resident	66	Resident	66	1 —	
47	48	76	33	33	34	68		69	Resident	68	Resident	68	1 —	
48	49	77	34	34	35	70		71	Resident	70	Resident	70	1 —	
49	50	78	35	35	36	72		73	Resident	72	Resident	72	1 —	
50	51	79	36	36	37	74		75	Resident	74	Resident	74	1 —	
51	52	80	37	37	38	76		77	Resident	76	Resident	76	1 —	
52	53	81	38	38	39	78		79	Resident	78	Resident	78	1 —	
53	54	82	39	39	40	80		81	Resident	80	Resident	80	1 —	
54	55	83	40	40	41	82		83	Resident	82	Resident	82	1 —	
55	56	84	41	41	42	84		85	Resident	84	Resident	84	1 —	
56	57	85	42	42	43	86		87	Resident	86	Resident	86	1 —	
57	58	86	43	43	44	88		89	Resident	88	Resident	88	1 —	
58	59	87	44	44	45	90		91	Resident	90	Resident	90	1 —	
59	60	88	45	45	46	92		93	Resident	92	Resident	92	1 —	
60	61	89	46	46	47	94		95	Resident	94	Resident	94	1 —	
61	62	90	47	47	48	96		97	Resident	96	Resident	96	1 —	
62	63	91	48	48	49	98		99	Resident	98	Resident	98	1 —	
63	64	92	49	49	50	100		101	Resident	100	Resident	100	1 —	
64	65	93	50	50	51				102	Resident	101	Resident	101	1 —
65	66	94	51	51	52				103	Resident	102	Resident	102	1 —
66	67	95	52	52	53				104	Resident	103	Resident	103	1 —
67	68	96	53	53	54				105	Resident	104	Resident	104	1 —
68	69	97	54	54	55				106	Resident	105	Resident	105	1 —
69	70	98	55	55	56				107	Resident	106	Resident	106	1 —
70	71	99	56	56	57				108	Resident	107	Resident	107	1 —
71	72	100	57	57	58				109	Resident	108	Resident	108	1 —
72	73		58	58	59				110	Resident	109	Resident	109	1 —
73	74		59	59	60				111	Resident	110	Resident	110	

Lookin At Lucky wins Preakness, Super Saver fades

BALTIMORE (AP)—Change of jockey, change of fortune.

Five years ago, Martin Garcia was working in a deli making sandwiches. He couldn't name even one of the Triple Crown races. But the 25-year-old jockey stole one of them Saturday, giving trainer Bob Baffert a Preakness win with a trouble-free ride.

Garcia beat veteran Calvin Borel, who had predicted a Triple Crown sweep after his colt Super Saver won the Kentucky Derby in the muck.

Baffert made a gutsy call between the two races, opting to take veteran Garrett Gomez off Lookin At Lucky, who was anything but in a series of mishaps in big races dating to last year.

"Our luck had to change somehow the way the trips have been," Baffert said.

The little-known jockey from Mexico proved to be up for the job aboard the bay colt in only his second Triple Crown race. Surprisingly, his toughest challenge didn't come from Super Saver. The colt faded to eighth as the 9-5 favorite in the 12-horse field.

"When I asked him, he kind of just folded up. It happens," said Borel, who didn't ride the rail this time - his signature trip.

Lookin At Lucky won by three quarters of a length over First Dude. Jackson Bend was another head back in third. The winner ran 1 3-16 miles in 1:55.47, giving Baffert his fifth Preakness victory, tying him with D. Wayne Lukas for second all-time.

It was the Hall of Famer's first Triple Crown win since 2002, when War Emblem won at Pimlico.

"When I saw those red colors making that cruise, I thought, 'Oh boy, he's running today,'" Baffert said.

Lucky's win means yet another year will pass without a Triple Crown champion. Affirmed was the last to sweep the Derby, Preakness and Belmont in 1978.

Lookin At Lucky paid \$6.80, \$4.60 and \$3.80 as the 2-1 second choice. First Dude returned \$16.60 and \$9.20, while Jackson Bend paid \$6.60 to show.

Yawanna Twist was fourth, followed by Dublin, Paddy O'Prado and Caracortado. Then came Super Saver, Schoolyard Dreams, Aikenite, Pleasant Prince and Northern Giant.

Things started to look up for Lucky on Wednesday, when he drew the No. 7 post. Super Saver wound up immediately to his outside.

"The draw was so important," Baffert said, and he turned out to be right.

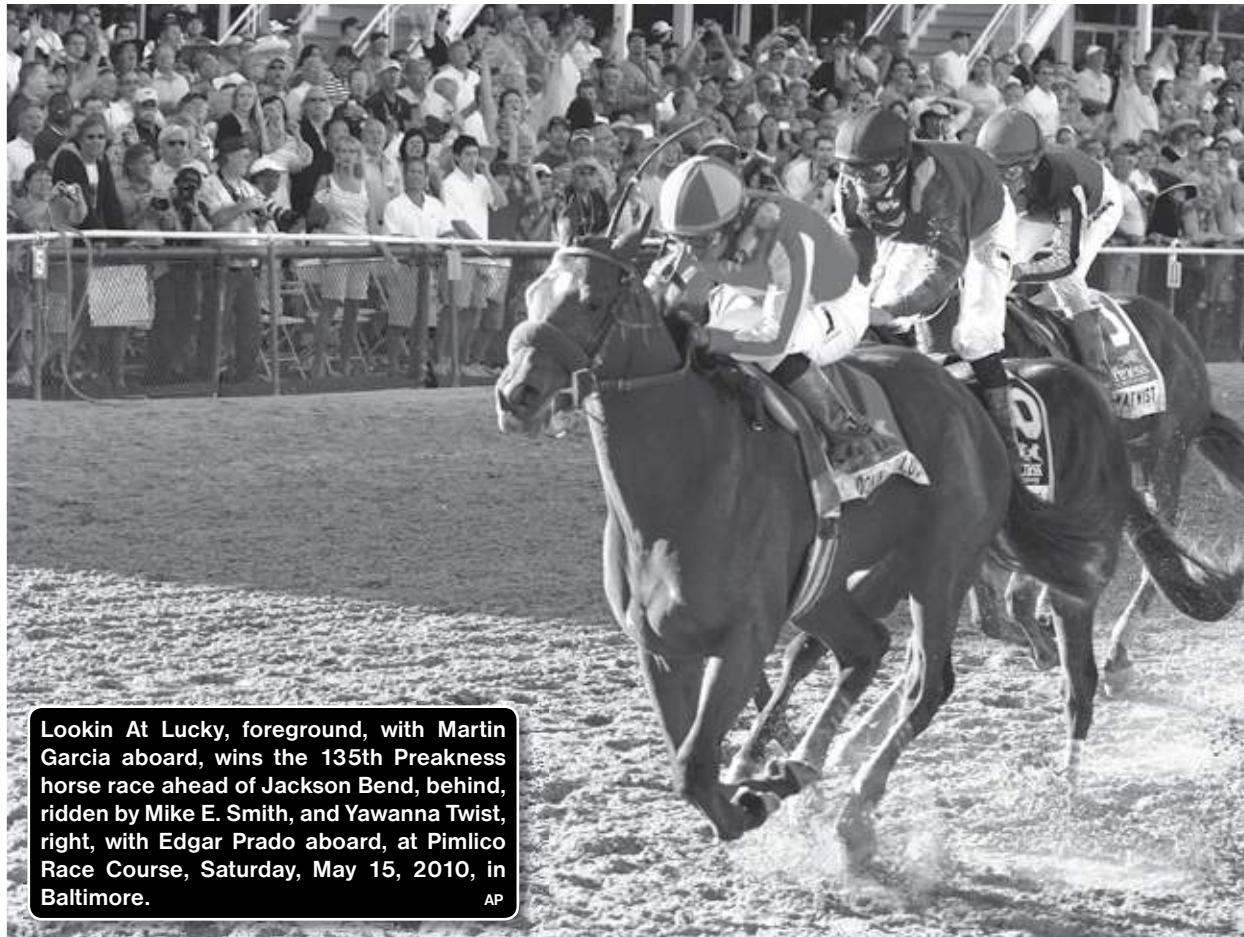
Bad post positions were only part of his colt's misfortunes. When Baffert decided to dump Gomez for Garcia, he traded experience for enthusiasm. Before the race, Garcia kept thanking Baffert for the mount, and the trainer kept telling him to focus on the race.

"Even when I start riding, I don't even know what is Preakness, what is Kentucky, any race," Garcia said. "I just know that I need to go and ride a horse and win. I didn't know anything about big races."

But he knew enough to put his horse in all the right places around the racetrack.

At Churchill Downs, Lookin At Lucky was compromised by his starting position on the rail. He was immediately checked hard along the fence under Gomez, who also was aboard for rough rides in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile, Rebel Stakes and Santa Anita Derby.

Gomez's streak of bad rides continued aboard Lukas' Dublin, who broke poorly



Lookin At Lucky, foreground, with Martin Garcia aboard, wins the 135th Preakness horse race ahead of Jackson Bend, behind, ridden by Mike E. Smith, and Yawanna Twist, right, with Edgar Prado aboard, at Pimlico Race Course, Saturday, May 15, 2010, in Baltimore.

AP

Lincecum finally back in win column, beats Astros



SAN FRANCISCO

(AP)—Tim Lincecum won for the first time in four starts and Juan Uribe hit a two-run homer in the fourth inning as the Giants beat Houston 2-1 on Saturday.

Lincecum (5-0) struck out five and walked five but outdueled Astros ace Roy Oswalt (2-5) in a rematch of hard-throwing righties from opening day.

Brian Wilson relieved Lincecum after the eighth and earned his eighth save in nine chances. But not before he loaded the bases and needed 15 pitches to retire Kaz Matsui on a game-ending flyout.

Lincecum earned his first win since April 23 following three straight no-decisions in which the two-time reigning NL Cy Young Award winner left with the lead.

Reds 4, Cardinals 3

At Cincinnati, Orlando Cabrera made a strong relay throw to the plate to nail Skip Schumaker for the final out, preserving Cincinnati's victory in baseball's Civil Rights Game.

Schumaker, who hit an RBI single to get St. Louis within one, tried to score when Joe Mather doubled to left. Rookie Chris Heisey, inserted for defensive purposes, got to the ball quickly when it died against the wall and threw to shortstop Cabrera, whose throw was to the foul side of the plate but fast enough for Ramon Hernandez to get over for the tag.

Dodgers 4, Padres 1

At San Diego, Clayton Kershaw threw seven strong innings against the first-place Padres in a victory that extended Los Angeles' winning streak to six.

James Loney homered and Russell Martin hit an RBI single for Los Angeles, which has won 11 of 14 and is two games above .500 for the first time this year. Garret Anderson had a run-scoring triple and Jamey Carroll an RBI single.

Kershaw (3-2) held the Padres to three hits, struck out seven and walked two. The left-hander started the Dodg-

ers' winning streak last Sunday by beating Colorado 2-0.

Marlins 7, Mets 5

At Miami, Cameron Maybin equaled a career high with three RBIs as Florida earned its season-best third consecutive win.

The Marlins finished with 12 hits and had help from John Maine, whose first 12 pitches were balls. Maine (1-3) lasted five innings but gave up six runs, increasing his ERA to 6.13.

The Mets (18-19) fell below .500 for the first time since April 24 and matched their longest losing streak of the season with their fourth consecutive defeat.

Phillies 10, Brewers 6

At Milwaukee, Shane Victorino homered and drove in four runs, powering Philadelphia to the victory.

Staked to a 9-2 lead after Victorino's two-run drive in the sixth inning and Philadelphia's five runs off reliever Claudio Vargas in the seventh, Joe Blanton (1-2) and the Phillies' bullpen made it interesting.

Corey Hart's three-run shot in the seventh cut it to 9-5. Milwaukee pushed another run across in the ninth and loaded the bases, but 38-year-old Jose Contreras earned his first career save by striking out the final two batters.

Pirates 4, Cubs 3

At Chicago, Jeff Clement homered in the ninth inning and Octavio Dotel escaped a jam in the bottom half to lead Pittsburgh to the win.

Dotel walked Starlin Castro with one out and surrendered an RBI triple to Kosuke Fukudome. With Fukudome on third and the infield in, Dotel struck out Ryan Theriot and Marlon Byrd for his seventh save in nine opportunities.

Diamondbacks 11, Braves 1

At Atlanta, Justin Upton and Kelly

Johnson homered to help Arizona snap a seven-game losing streak.

Upton's sixth homer made it 1-0 in the first and his RBI triple in the fifth gave the Diamondbacks a 5-0 lead.

Rockies 6, Nationals 2, 1st game

Rockies 4, Nationals 3, 2nd game

At Denver, Ian Desmond's throwing error in the seventh inning allowed Paul Phillips to score the go-ahead run, helping Colorado complete a doubleheader sweep.

Ubaldo Jimenez threw eight stellar innings for the Rockies in the opener, and Carlos Gonzalez and Seth Smith hit back-to-back homers in the second game.

Indians 8, Orioles 2

At Baltimore, Austin Kearns hit a go-ahead, three-run homer off Alfredo Simon in an eight-run ninth inning as the Cleveland Indians rallied for victory to end the Orioles' season-high three-game winning streak.

With one out and Baltimore ahead 2-0, Simon (0-1) allowed a single by Asdrubal Cabrera and walked Mark Grudzielanek. Shin-Soo Choo followed with an RBI single before Kearns slammed an 0-2 changeup to left for his third homer.

White Sox 5, Royals 4

At Kansas City, Jake Peavy settled down after a rocky first inning and pitched into the ninth to win his third straight start.

After the start was delayed 61 minutes by rain, Peavy (3-2) gave up a three-run double to Alberto Callaspo in the first inning and Billy Butler's homer in the third. But the right-hander allowed only three singles after that before he was pulled with one out in the ninth.

Blue Jays 6, Rangers 0

At Toronto, Ricky Romero struck out 12 in his first career shutout and Jose

from the 12th post and was not a factor.

Garcia kept Lookin At Lucky in the clear while running mid-pack down the backstretch, behind pacesetting First Dude. He made a big move on the final turn to challenge the surprisingly stubborn First Dude, a 23-1 long shot.

Racing on a dry track under sunny skies, Lookin At Lucky finally took charge in deep stretch.

Garcia came to the United States in 2003, working at a deli in the San Francisco Bay area. The owner introduced him to a former jockey, who got him a job as an exercise rider even though he had no experience.

Two years later he was a jockey, but continued cooking two days a week at the deli in a show of gratitude. He moved to Southern California a year later and found success on the ultra competitive circuit.

His most important new connection was Baffert.

"He came out here today and he was so cool and calm," the trainer said. "He rode a perfect race. Martin can get a horse to settle really well, and I could see he had the horse in a nice rhythm."

The race looked good for Super Saver, too, in the early stages.

Bautista hit two home runs.

Romero (4-1) allowed just five singles and walked one. The left-hander lowered his ERA to 2.88 and matched his career best for strikeouts while extending his unbeaten streak to five starts.

Rays 3, Mariners 2

At St. Petersburg, Florida, Willy Aybar homered leading off the bottom of the ninth inning, giving baseball-best Tampa Bay the victory.

The Rays wiped out a 2-0 deficit in the eighth inning, then won it with Aybar's drive to right-center on a 3-2 pitch from Jesus Colome (0-1).

Rafael Soriano (2-0) pitched a scoreless ninth in relief of James Shields to get the win.

Yankees 7, Twins 1

At New York, Andy Pettitte put to rest any concern about his left elbow, holding the Twins to two hits into the seventh inning.

Mark Teixeira and Jorge Posada hit long two-run homers in the seventh after stingy Francisco Liriano was done.

Pettitte (5-0) pitched 6 1-3 scoreless innings in his first outing in 10 days, winning his fifth consecutive decision to match his career-best start in 1997. He left his previous game May 5 with elbow inflammation and was forced to skip a start as a precaution.

Angels 12, Athletics 3

At Anaheim, Kendry Morales drove in five runs with a pair of homers, including a go-ahead shot off emergency starter Tyson Ross, as the Los Angeles Angels reached double digits in runs for the first time this season.

Ervin Santana (2-3) earned his first win since April 18, allowing three runs—two earned—and seven hits over six innings with six strikeouts and three walks. The right-hander is 11-2 with a 1.50 ERA in 18 career appearances against the A's, including 16 starts.

Ol' Celtics, or just old? Boston to show vs. Magic

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—Plopped on the couch in his living room, Stan Van Gundy was watching Boston blow past Cleveland in the Eastern Conference semifinals and thought it was some sort of replay from the Celtics' 2008 NBA title run.

There were the familiar scenes: Kevin Garnett pounding his chest, Ray Allen swishing 3-pointers and Paul Pierce pumping his fist. Boston was winning, and winning big.

Orlando's coach was perplexed.

"If you look at them, that's the (same) team," Van Gundy said. "What would be the difference?"

These days, it might be hard to tell.

Turning back the clock to make another championship run, the resurgent Celtics are healthy again and looking to take down the playoff-perfect Orlando Magic starting Sunday in an Eastern Conference finals pitting the past two conference champions.

The Celtics, with 17 NBA titles and names such as Larry Bird and Bill Russell hanging from the rafters, want to add to their lore and prove that the bullies from Beantown are back. They'll have to do it against a favored Orlando team that's hungry to win its first NBA championship.

"Orlando was the team coming into the season where if you wanted to get out of the East, you had to beat Orlando," Celtics coach Doc Rivers said. "They're the team that won the East last year, not Cleveland, and I want to make sure our guys focus on that."

The motivated Magic, spurred by last year's NBA finals loss, swept through the first two rounds and have won 14 straight going back to the regular season. They eliminated the Celtics in seven games in the second round a year ago, and went 3-1 against Boston this year.

That might not mean much now.

Garnett, the centerpiece of Boston's last title, was out with a right knee injury in last year's playoffs and is now close to full strength for the first time since. Orlando's starting point guard, Jameer Nelson, also was sidelined with a tear in his right shoulder last season.

Add some fresh faces—headlined by Vince Carter for the Magic and Rasheed Wallace for the Celtics—and put a conference title at stake, and this year's series is getting a facelift.

"You're talking about pretty much



Boston Celtics' Kevin Garnett (5) and Kendrick Perkins, right, celebrate as Rajon Rondo (9) walks to the bench during a timeout late in the fourth quarter against the Cleveland Cavaliers in Game 6 in a second-round NBA basketball playoff series in Boston on Thursday, May 13, 2010.

two different teams," Pierce said. "It should be an interesting matchup."

The roles are now reversed.

The Magic are the ones with home-court advantage, rolling past Atlanta and Charlotte in the opening rounds. They have peaked at the right time, winning 28 of their last 31 games, many in blowouts.

"I think for us if we want to win the series, we have to do all the things we did in the first two series," Orlando's Dwight Howard said. "And if we do that, we should win. We should win this series, but we all have to believe that and we have to understand that it's not going to be easy."

The Magic will have had six days between series and plenty of practices. They also had time to watch Boston take out LeBron James and the Cleveland Cavaliers with Garnett, who turns 34 next week, leading the way.

Too old to challenge for a title? The Magic don't believe it.

"There's no possible way somebody could have watched their 11 playoff games and think that age is any problem," Van Gundy said. "The only way people could say that is they literally could not have been watching the games."

"I think a lot of what people were calling slippage was health-related," he added. "All I know is what I'm watching, not only in the Cleveland series but the Miami series, does not look like a team on the decline."

Before the Magic eliminated the Celtics last season, the series was already being labeled with an asterisk: Garnett was out. It didn't matter much that Nelson wasn't playing.

Though the Magic don't know how a healthy Garnett would have affected last year's matchup, they know he'll be a factor come Sunday.

"It's hard to say," Magic forward Rashard Lewis said of last year. "I think it would have been a lot tougher. We beat them in seven. It's hard to say if we could have beat them without him, and we'll see if we can beat them this time with him."

So consider this a remix, with a few oldies added in.

That includes the Magic's biggest offseason acquisition, the 33-year-old Carter. He takes offense to any slights about age because, after all, he's in the same 1995 high school class as Garnett and Pierce.

birdies. He hit par on every other hole.

"I felt one more tournament could really do it for me, and although it didn't happen in the first round, I feel it's really coming around now," Els said.

Vijay Singh, who played with Els and is arguably the other biggest name in the tournament, shot for par in the second round and made the cut at 1 over. Sergio Garcia shot a 68 and was four strokes back.

Zach Johnson, the two-time defending tournament champion, couldn't erase the damage from his disastrous opening-round 80. He missed the cut at 4 over.

Johnson beat Driscoll in a sudden-death playoff at this tournament a year ago, and Driscoll on Saturday blew his chance for a five-way tie for first with a bogey on his final hole. His approach missed the green on the par-4 ninth, and his 8-foot putt for par missed by 2 feet.

Suns smirk at Jackson's 'traveling' accusation

PHOENIX (AP)—The Phoenix Suns have reacted with a collective smirk to Phil Jackson's suggestion that Steve Nash travels with the basketball.

Nash even had a subtle retort worthy of Jackson himself.

"It's news to me. I'm fortunate. I don't know if I've been called for a carry yet," he said after the Suns practiced Saturday, then he added straight-faced: "I've never heard anyone accuse me of carrying it. I mean, the best coach in the league Gregg Popovich (of San Antonio) didn't have a problem with it last week."

Get it? Popovich the best coach in the league?

"We have the best officials in the world," Nash continued. "I'll just leave it up to them."

Jackson had grinned when asked

on Friday if it's tough for the Lakers to prepare to face Nash, the reigning NBA skills champion, because of the Suns guard's frenetic style.

"Yeah, because you can't carry the ball like he does in practice," Jackson said, making a gesture of palming the basketball. "You can't pick that ball up and run with it."

Phoenix coach Alvin Gentry laughed off the accusation.

"You guys got to admire Phil," Gentry said. "C'mon, the stuff that he throws out there, I mean I think it's great. He's very creative. There's a reason. But I think you've got to understand that there's kind of a method to his madness. If you let it affect you, then it will."

Gentry went on to praise Jackson for his ability to create championship

chemistry on teams with great players, calling it "probably the toughest thing in the NBA to do."

He said the Suns weren't going to get drawn into what they consider Jackson's psychological ploy.

"How can we win that?" Gentry said. "We're not going to win that battle anyway."

But the Phoenix coach added a jab at the Lakers when he was asked jokingly if the team worked on ball handling skills.

"We spent the day ducking elbows on post-ups, to see if we could duck elbows on post-ups," Gentry said, a not-to-thinly veiled nod to the Lakers' style. "So it all works out, it all works out."

Amare Stoudemire probably spoke for the rest of the team with his reaction.

"Typical Phil," he said.

4-way tie for lead in Texas Open

holes. "You're going to gripe about it, I think that's more advantage for other people that aren't and just kind of go with the flow."

Tour rookie Garth Mulroy (67) was a stroke back along with Charley Hoffman (70), James Driscoll (68), J.B. Holmes (70), Pat Perez (66), Tim Petrovic (68) and Aron Price (68). Ernie Els, a two-time winner this year, was two shots back at 5 under after a 67.

"Hoping for Texas winds tomorrow," Els said. "It's going to be a long day but I'll be up for it."

PGA Tour officials hadn't ruled out stretching the tournament into Monday if storms delayed the tournament again. The National Weather Service called for a 40 percent chance of rain Sunday.

"The greens are what they are," said

Walker, who missed the cut in three of his last four tournaments since April, grabbed a share of the lead on a course he knows better than most.

The San Antonio resident played TPC San Antonio—where the Texas Open moved this spring after 15 years at La Cantera Golf Club—before most anyone last winter. That familiarity started paying off.

After starting the round four back, Walker birdied three holes on the front nine and another three on the back leg. He used a sand wedge to put a 111-yard approach about seven feet from the cup on the par-4 11th, then sank the putt for birdie.

"I've gotten way behind and it's hard to claw your way back from the

back of the pack," Walker said. "I've been doing it but it's not fun. It's nice to get out and make the cut, you know, fairly easy."

Els also began a push. The current money and FedEx Cup points leader, who also is the only player in the field ranked in the top 10, missed the cut last week at The Players Championship while working through a bad swing.

Els arrived in Texas focused on releasing his club earlier and not being so "handsy through the hitting area." Though still feeling conservative with his drivers, Els was on target with his driver.

On the par-5 second, Els got out of a fairway bunker with a 5-iron before sinking a 17-footer for one of his five

FIELDERS

From Page 28

But in the top of the third, Manny Sablan put the Brewers right back in it with a towering homerun shot over the right field fence that also brought Ron Benavente home. It is worth mentioning that the wind was calm on Friday night and Sablan used a wooden stick to hit a real out-of-the-park home run which does not happen too often in this ballpark.

SWEEP

From Page 28

with 61 points, while San Vicente finished third with 37.50 points.

Trophies were awarded to the Top 3 schools in each age group.

In the boys' 6 to 8, the Umangs gained 125 points, edging Brilliant Star (44 pts.), and San Vicente (36).

FALCONS

From Page 28

left a guy on base and failed to answer for a third time.

At 4-4 to start the fifth, the Falcons added three runs to their lead and they would need it because the Twins' offense finally came alive in the bottom half.

The Twins loaded the bases off an error, a fielder's choice, and a hit batsman that later set up a big two RBI double by P.J. Sablan. Daron Jones then singled in Sablan before the Falcons regained their grip.

Although the Twins showed up with a late push, the game remained at 7-4 after a scoreless sixth inning.

Notables of the game include the winning pitcher for the Falcons, Chris Sablan, who went five innings and allowed two earned runs with 10 strikeouts, three hits, three walks, and a hit-by-pitch as well. Twins Daron Jones also pitched a solid 5 2/3 innings and allowed two earned runs with 12 strikeouts, four hits, and a walk in a losing effort.

MCGRAW-HILL

From Page 28

The first half ended with McGraw-Hill still ahead by double-digits, 43-31, but not for long, as Shirley's recovered in the third and moved within five, 47-52, entering the fourth canto.

Aguon suited up for McGraw-Hill late in the second and started out in the third canto, but struggled with his outside shots, making only one triple. However, he and Mendiola found their rhythm in the fourth canto to prevent Shirley's from taking the lead. Aguon had 12 points in the final quarter, firing two triples, while Mendiola chipped in eight.

Shirley's lost steam in the final canto, as it had only Fradel Sedillo making more than two

In the bottom half, John Reyes singled and scored off an error to give the Fielders a one-run lead after three.

In the top of the fourth, the Brewers kept plugging and got the run back from Mark Flores who knocked in Vince Cepeda.

But for some reason, the Fielders always seemed to stay one step ahead in this one and added two more runs to break the tie.

With two outs, Juan Maratita delivered a big two RBI single that brought home Wen-

sner Namelo and Justin Reyes who reached earlier off a beam ball and a single.

Later in the top of the fifth, the stubborn Brewers would not go away and knotted up the score again.

Jess Mesa hit a two RBI single that brought in Benavente and Sablan, who reached off a walk and an error.

The Fielders came out and went 1-2-3 in the bottom half and the score remained even at 5-5 all the way until past the ninth inning where an unchar-

acteristic chain of events took place during the conclusion of this duel.

The pitching and defense tightened up for both squads during the rest of this outing as runs became hard to come by.

The Brewers went 1-2-3 until the top of the ninth when they loaded up the bases just in time to leave them all stranded.

The Fielders stranded two runners in the sixth, one runner in both the seventh and eighth innings, and then left all of their runners stranded with

the bases loaded in the bottom of the ninth.

The Fielders held it down and forced the Brewers to go 1-2-3 in the top of the 10th and with one out in the bottom half, Ionis Rasa reached off an error and ended up in scoring position on second for the Fielders.

Ryan Lisua came up next and belted a walk off single that brought home the winning run, but the Brewers appealed that the batter ran out of the base path in celebration, and never

went over to touch first base.

The umpire concurred and called Lisua out via a force out, which made the runner go back to second.

Ben Sablan then stepped into the box and belted a walk off double in remarkably similar fashion that officially brought in Ton Tenorio, who came in off the bench as a pinch runner for Rasa for the winning run.

With the late dramatic win, the Fielders forced a final Game 5 which will take place tonight at 6:30pm.

lyn Atalig, Joeny Villagomez, Jared Reyes, Rodley Oscar, Leonard Manuel, Ramnes Karben, Kenneth Kaipat, Keoni Elias, Christopher Romolor, Jared Reyes, Isaac Reyes, Mariano Kaipat, Coby Santos, Johnny Elias, Kenneth Kaipat, and Manuel Celis.

Overall results in other age groups will be published in *Saipan Tribune*'s Tuesday edition.

Koblerville had another sweep in the 9 to 10 age group, earning 106 points in the girls competition and 138 in the boys. In the girls division, Koblerville topped Whispering Palms School (55 pts.) and Dandan Elementary School (39), while in the boys category, the Umangs won over WSR (71.50 pts.) and Whispering Palms (40 pts.)

In the girls' 11 to 12 age group, Oleai Elementary School and Whispering Palms had a neck-and-neck battle for the championship with the Turtles collecting 59.50 points against the Terns' 59. Points were given to teams based on how they finished in each event. In third place was WSR with 56 points.

In the boys' 11 to 12, WSR

this time took the championships after recording 77 points.

Dandan Elementary School gained 66 markers for second place, while Koblerville finished third with 50 points.

Delivering the first place wins for WSR in the boys' 11 to 12 division were Alex Limes, Joseph Maratita, Wilfredo Francisco, and Quin Amog. In the girls' 11 to 12, Oleai drew a gold medal from Jasmine Weilbacher (800m run) and a couple of

silver and bronze medals from other events.

For Koblerville, the gold medalists in the 6 to 8 and 9 to 10 age groups were the following: Tyvie Ann They, Kristine Pude, Virginia Imperial, Enirequa Salas.

Isabel Evangelista, Chloe

Omengkar, Dorian Lizama,

and Stephanie Rejano, Devina Rejano, Roca Kasian, Jozina-

runs in the third.

After three innings the score was 9-4 and neither team scored in the fourth or fifth innings.

In the top of the sixth, the Sox added two more to their lead from Jose Tyquengco, who stole home, and Franco Nakamura, who scored off an error after both players reached via fielder's choice.

The Dragons needed seven runs to take it to extra innings, but only managed one as they got burned by the Red Sox, 11-5.

The Red Sox did a great job of manufacturing their runs together as a team, but some standout notables included Jobe Reyes who batted 1-for-3 with a triple, two RBIs and a run; Jhace Palacios who went 1-for-3 with two RBIs and a run; and Jonathon Camacho who batted 2-for-2 with two runs and two stolen bases.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES**MLB STANDINGS****AMERICAN LEAGUE****East Division**

	W	L	Pct	GB
Tampa Bay	25	11	.694	—
New York	24	12	.667	1
Toronto	22	16	.579	4
Boston	19	18	.514	6 1/2
Baltimore	12	25	.324	13 1/2

Central Division

Minnesota	22	14	.611	—
Detroit	21	16	.568	1 1/2
Chicago	15	21	.417	7
Cleveland	14	20	.412	7
Kansas City	13	24	.351	9 1/2

West Division

Texas	20	17	.541	—
Oakland	18	19	.486	2
Los Angeles	17	21	.447	3 1/2
Seattle	14	22	.389	5 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE**East Division**

Philadelphia	22	13	.629	—
Washington	20	17	.541	3
Florida	19	18	.514	4
New York	18	19	.486	5
Atlanta	17	19	.472	5 1/2

Central Division

St. Louis	21	16	.568	—
Cincinnati	20	16	.556	1 1/2
Pittsburgh	16	20	.444	4 1/2
Milwaukee	15	21	.417	5 1/2
Chicago	15	22	.405	6
Houston	13	23	.361	7 1/2

West Division

San Diego	22	14	.611	—
San Francisco	20	15	.571	1 1/2

TEXAS OPEN SCORES**SAN ANTONIO, Texas (AP)—Scores**

Saturday after the second round of the rain-delayed \$6.1 million Texas Open at the 7,435-yard, par 72 Oaks Course at TPC of San Antonio:

THIRD ROUND

Brett Wetterich	69-68-137	-7
Jimmy Walker	70-67-137	-7
James Nitties	70-67-137	-7
Matt Jones	66-71-137	-7
Charley Hoffman	68-70-138	-6
Garth Mulroy	71-67-138	-6
James Driscoll	70-68-138	-6
J.B. Holmes	68-70-138	-6
Pat Perez	72-66-138	-6
Tim Petrovic	70-68-138	-6

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dexter Mendiola, Bobby Coldeen, Charlie Peters, and Randy Pelisamen continued to team up in the third period, helping BoG survive Tamayo and Catalla's impressive 3-point shooting.

Catalla added three more treys in the third and Tamayo posted two more in the third, which concluded with BoG still on top, 74-71.

Catalla then went cold in the fourth quarter, but Tamayo was still there to keep the fire burning. Tamayo made one triple and went 10-for-10 from the stripe to power AON to a come-from-behind win. Leo Factor made up for Catalla's scoreless-game in the fourth, adding eight, while Abuan added five, going 3-for-4 from the foul line.

AON won the game in the fourth behind its 19-for-25 shooting from the 15-foot line. Scoring by quarters: 21-all, 43-46, 71-74, 104-99.

BoG hit the stripe six times and made four charities.

The Week in Sports

The sports community was busy as usual last week, having baseball, football, softball, basketball, and badminton games.

In baseball, the 2010 Saipan Major League continued its championship series with the Fielders notching two straight wins to tie their best-of-five title showdown against the Miller Lite Brewers. The Fielders last win came in Game 4 last Friday, 6-5, to force a rubber match tonight.

Still in baseball, the Saipan Little League Baseball had already completed the regular season of the Majors division and was in the last week of the elimination round in the Juniors, Seniors, and Big League divisions. The Majors playoffs began over the weekend.

In football, Northern Mariana Islands Football Association completed its fes-

Full week for sports

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

tival for U14 division with Matansa Football Club and MP United Blue claiming the boys and girls champion- ship, respectively.

Matansa topped MP United in the girls U 14 finals, 2-0, to notch its third straight title, while MP United Blue prevailed over Independents in the boys U14 finale, 2-0. Andrea Camacho scored twin goals for Matansa, while Jahn Joyner and Chris Park hit one each for MP United.

Perpetual trophies were awarded to

the champion teams, while each player of the winning squads received miniature trophies. Boys' runner-up Independents and third placer Tan Holdings were awarded certificate. In the girls division, Paire finished third behind Matansa and MP United.

In softball, teams in the top half of the 21-squad field in the Chamolinian league posted wins that strengthened their playoff bid. Only the Top 10 teams will advance to the double-elimination playoffs and so far only Natibu

(17-1), Island Rebels (16-2), Man Amigos (16-3), SaiPal (14-4), Chura (14-4), Ur Balls (13-6), and San Roque (12-6) are assured of slots to the next round. Five other teams are battling for the last three playoff berths.

In basketball, action in the Masters caging continued with IT&E and Sha- kir Realty remained the only unbeaten teams in the 16-squad league.

In the Shirley's caging, four teams had already advanced to the second round; Pacific Islands Club, Aqua Re-

sort Club, McGraw-Hill, and AON/NJ Pro Plus. Booted out of the league were Bank of Guam, TBK Auto Shop, Shirley's, and Pepsi.

The Navy Hill caging also started its playoffs last week with Viel's and Lyn's BBQ eliminating Torch Bearers and Diamond, respectively.

In badminton, the 2010 IT&E Sin- gles/Mixed Doubles Badminton Com- petition concluded with five more play- ers being crowned champions.

Included on the list were Mario Dio- la, Choi Hannah, Chris Hilario, Rey Bulaon, and Merlie Tolentino. Diola won the men's B singles title and teamed up with Hannah in their title conquest of the mixed B doubles division. Hilario took the men's C singles plum, Bulaon claimed the men's A singles champion- ships, while Tolentino won the wom- en's C singles crown.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Matansa and MP United players in action during their U14 title game in the NMIFA spring league last week at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
MP United Blue's Jake Lee tries to keep the ball away from two Independents defenders during their boys U14 title game.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
A Falcons pitcher throws to a Twins batter during their playoff game in the Majors division of the SLIB on Saturday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
PIC's Butch Sublemente pulls up for a fadeaway jumper against TBK's Raymark Castro during their playoff game in the Shirley's caging last week at the JP Center Basketball Court.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Viel's Marlon De Dios, right, challenges the shot of Torch Bearers' Aaron Engelbert during their playoff game in the Navy Hill caging last week at the Garapan Basketball Court.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Choi Hannah returns to Angie Ito and Jojo Savellano, while teammate Mario Diola looks on during their mixed doubles B title game in the IT&E tournament last week at the REM Center in Gualo Rai.



PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune Sports



28 MONDAY, MAY 17, 2010

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Fielders force rubber game in SML



Ben Sablan, right, came in as the Fielders' closer in the top of the ninth to secure the save, while John Reyes, left, batted 2-for-4 to lead their team to victory against the Brewers Friday night and tie the best-of-five championship series in the 2010 Saipan Major League at two games apiece.

By WALTER J. SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Fielders held on to edge the Brewers, 6-5, and tied up the 2010 Saipan Major League championship series at 2-2 after Friday night's Game 4 showdown at Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

This game went back and forth as the Brewers were right on the Fielders' heels throughout the entirety of the game. The score built to a 5-5 tie and both teams would not back down until the Fielders finally made the Brewers blink in the 10th inning of play.

After a scoreless first inning, the

Fielders stuffed the Brewers in the top of the second and took a two run lead in their bottom half.

Ryan Lisua came through with a two RBI triple with two outs that brought home Shane Mendiola and Jason Reyes who both reached earlier off errors.

See FIELDERS on Page 26



The Falcons first baseman picks up a grounder during their playoff game against the Twins in the Majors division of the 2010 Saipan Little League Baseball on Saturday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pan-gelinan Ballfield.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

By WALTER J. SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



The Falcons fended off a lively rally attempt late in the game to get past the Twins and advance to the next round of the 2010 Saipan Little League Majors Division playoffs held Saturday at Miguel "Tan Ge" Pan-gelinan Ballfield.

Angel Palacios singled in Barry Sunumai who reached off an error, stole second, and moved to third off a passed ball for the Falcons in the top of the first.

The Twins went 1-2-3 in the first, but Twins' pitcher, Daron Jones, stepped up for his team and struck out the side in the top of the second.

In the bottom half, the Twins left two stranded and came up empty.

In the top of the third, the Falcons added a run to put them ahead 3-0, while in the bottom half, the Twins left two more runners stranded and came away with nothing again.

The Falcons added a run in the fourth when Donnie Manalo knocked in Derek Naog who ended up on third after an error and a passed ball and the Twins

See FALCONS on Page 26

Falcons fly as playoffs start, beat Twins



The Falcons first baseman picks up a grounder during their playoff game against the Twins in the Majors division of the 2010 Saipan Little League Baseball on Saturday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pan-gelinan Ballfield.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

By WALTER J. SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



The Falcons fended off a lively rally attempt late in the game to get past the Twins and advance to the next round of the 2010 Saipan Little League Majors Division playoffs held Saturday at Miguel "Tan Ge" Pan-gelinan Ballfield.

Angel Palacios singled in Barry Sunumai who reached off an error, stole second, and moved to third off a passed ball for the Falcons in the top of the first.

The Twins went 1-2-3 in the first, but Twins' pitcher, Daron Jones, stepped up for his team and struck out the side in the top of the second.

In the bottom half, the Twins left two stranded and came up empty.

In the top of the third, the Falcons added a run to put them ahead 3-0, while in the bottom half, the Twins left two more runners stranded and came away with nothing again.

The Falcons added a run in the fourth when Donnie Manalo knocked in Derek Naog who ended up on third after an error and a passed ball and the Twins

See FALCONS on Page 26

Sweep for Koblerville, Oleai, WSR win



Two Koblerville Elementary School runners race in the 800m run in the 9 to 10 age group competition in the 2010 McDonald's All Schools Athletics Championships on Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex track and field facility.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

swept two age groups (boys and girls' 6 to 8 and 9 to 10 divisions), while Oleai Elementary School and William S. Reyes Elementary School prevailed in girls and boys' 11 to 12 age group, respectively.

In the girls' 6 to 8 age group, the Lady Umangs collected 121 points from the throwing, jumping, and running events to beat six other schools, Whispering Palms came in second

See SWEEP on Page 26

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Three schools stood out in three age groups competitions in the 2010 McDonald's All Schools Athletics Championships held from Thursday to Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex track and field facility.

Koblerville Elementary School

McGraw-Hill, AON survive first round

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



McGraw-Hill and AON/NJ Pro Plus advanced to the next round of the 2nd Annual Shirley's Coffee Shop Invitational Basketball League eliminating separate opponents on Saturday at the JP Center Basketball Court.

The No. 8 McGraw-Hill was paired against the No. 9 Shirley's in the first round of the playoffs and won the weekend's first match, 90-79. In the second game, No. 10 AON pulled off an upset over Bank of Guam, 104-99.

McGraw-Hill is now in the quarterfinals and will face defending champion and No. 1 seed Micronesian Broker, Inc. tonight. AON's quarterfinal's foe tonight will be the second-ranked World Resort/Advance.

Peter Mendiola paced McGraw-Hill with 28 points, while gunner Rufino Aguon came off the bench and chipped in 15. Mendiola and Aguon hit timely baskets in the fourth quarter, foiling Shirley's repeated comeback bids.

After trailing in the first period, 19-21, McGraw-Hill picked up its pace in the second to grab the driver's seat and lead by as much as 14, 39-25.

See MCGRAW-HILL on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
McGraw-Hill's Peter Mendiola, left, goes for a layup against Shirley's Errol Peredo during their playoff game in the Shirley's caging on Saturday at the JP Center Basketball Court.